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# COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN AND PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM ABERDEEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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AUTHOR: North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, Division of Community Planning

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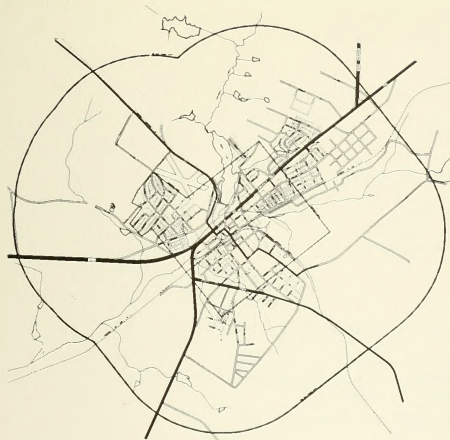
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ABSTRACT: The wide range of community facilities in Aberdeen, North Carolina, are surveyed and analyzed in this report to determine their adequacy for the planning period. The planning area includes the Town of Aberdeen and its one-mile fringe area. There are approximately 1,500 people in the town and an additional 1,500 in the fringe area for a total of 3,000 in the entire planning area. The plan is for twenty years, 1968 to 1988. Existing  
(Continued on inside of back cover.)



# COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN AND PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

ABERDEEN, NORTH CAROLINA



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COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN AND  
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

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# COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN





## INTRODUCTION

### What are community facilities?

Basically, community facilities are the services that a community has decided it needs in order to provide a safe, orderly, and healthy place to live. For the most part, the community has also decided that these services can best be provided collectively through the local town and county governments. Some examples of community facilities are fire and police protection, the water system, sanitary sewerage, storm sewerage, refuse collection and disposal, health facilities, schools, recreation facilities, and libraries.

### Who provides community facilities?

The great majority of Aberdeen's community facilities are provided by the town government. Others are provided by Moore County and the State of North Carolina. A few, such as electricity and gas, are provided by private organizations, under public franchise.

### Why plan for community facilities?

There are several good reasons Aberdeen should plan in advance for its community facilities. The first of these reasons is related to demand for the community facilities. Each year there are more people in Aberdeen to use these services. More people mean a greater demand for services. The second reason is related to the rising standard of living. As people's desire for more and better services and goods increases in the private sector, so also their desire for more and better public facilities increases. As an example, people once used water just for drinking, cooking, and washing. Today,

many families use water for those purposes and also for washing automobiles, sprinkling lawns, air conditioning, and swimming pools not to mention industrial demand for water. Also, in Aberdeen, the town needs to plan to serve some areas which are not now served by the major utilities such as water and sewer.

The third important reason it is important to plan for community facilities has to do with cost. Services such as water, sewer, and streets are designed to be used for many years and they require large initial outlays of capital. Once a facility such as a street is constructed, the community normally will have to use it and live with it for many years regardless of whether it was designed or located properly.

Advance planning can help insure the public's money will be spent wisely for the following reasons:

1. Community needs can be considered logically and alternative solutions can be explored.
2. The location, size, and level of service each facility should provide can be determined.
3. The priority of community facility needs can be set according to urgency, relative benefit derived from each facility, and with the community's financial capacity in mind.
4. Advance knowledge of land needs for community facilities may make land acquisition possible at cheaper prices.
5. Advance planning prevents expensive crash programs to meet emergency situations.
6. Community facilities can be used to guide development in accordance with the development plan.

### Who do community facilities serve?

Most community services are designed primarily to serve the residents of the town. There are some exceptions. Both residents and non-residents use Aberdeen's streets, sidewalks, and other facilities, but for the most part these facilities were built and paid for by residents. Some facilities such as hospitals, the sheriff's department, and the airport were designed to serve a larger region than just Aberdeen and its planning area.

### How many people should Aberdeen plan for in the future?

A water treatment plant of a certain capacity, or a certain size municipal building can normally be said to be adequate for a town of a specific size. Thus, if a community's population is 1,500, it is possible to make estimates of the number of municipal employees and facilities needed to provide adequate service levels for most community facilities. A community facilities plan must consider more than just the present population however. Most community facilities are designed for many years, and decisions made today will affect people living in Aberdeen far in the future. For this reason this plan tries to anticipate needs over a twenty-year planning period. Because of the time involved, it is important to have an idea of what Aberdeen's population will be twenty years in the future as well as to know the present population. This information was presented in Aberdeen's Population and Economy Study.<sup>1</sup> The population projections made in that report for the Aberdeen Planning Area are given below. The report concluded that the present town population was approximately 1,500 and that the fringe area population was approximately the same. Growth during the next twenty years was expected to take place mostly in the fringe area.

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<sup>1</sup> Copies of the Aberdeen Population and Economy Study are available at the Aberdeen Municipal Building.

ABERDEEN PLANNING AREA POPULATION PROJECTIONS  
(Includes Aberdeen and the One-Mile Fringe Area)

1967-----3,035

1970-----3,191

1975-----3,468

1980-----3,769

1985-----4,112

Using these figures there will be an additional 1,200 people in the Aberdeen Planning Area to serve at the end of the planning period. Although about one-half the planning area's population now lives outside the municipal limits, it would be reasonable to expect that at least some of these will be annexed to the town during the next twenty years.

What methods were used in making this report?

The steps used in determining Aberdeen's present and future community facility needs are listed below:

1. Survey. A survey was made of all existing facilities. This was done in order to determine the level of service each facility is providing. Factors considered included the facility's site, equipment and personnel.
2. Standards. National, state, and local organizations have set minimum service standards that various community facilities should meet to be considered adequate. Each facility in Aberdeen has been compared with the minimum standards suggested in order to determine if adequate service levels are being provided. In some cases, standards based on facilities or personnel for large populated areas are not suitable where smaller facilities and staffs are the rule. In



these cases exceptions were made to the recognized standards and common sense rules applied.

3. Analysis and Evaluation. Existing facilities and services are considered in terms of present and future needs and in terms of the suggested standards.
4. Recommendations. After present services and facilities have been analyzed, proposals and recommendations are made in order to bring inferior services up to desirable levels and to insure that suitable levels of service will be provided throughout the planning period.
5. Alternate Recommendations. In some instances alternate recommendations were made. These recommendations generally refer to the possibility of Aberdeen joining other communities in an area-wide solution to a specific problem. It should be kept in mind that within a few miles of Aberdeen several other communities, Souther Pines, Pinehurst, and Pinebluff, are very likely to be facing the very same problems that confront Aberdeen. Also, the rural areas surrounding these towns are rapidly becoming more urban in nature, and they may be turning to the county government for many urban services in the near future.

The alternate recommendations made in this report serve to remind Aberdeen residents that many of their problems may be best solved by joining with neighboring towns and rural urban areas to provide area services rather than just town services. It may be found that where any one of the urban areas in southern Moore County cannot afford a certain service or facility, by joining together several communities could pool their resources and produce a decent level of service for all the residents in the area. Also, for some existing services, an urban area approach might be the most economical one.

Aberdeen and Southern Pines already work together in some areas. The Aberdeen Police Department utilizes the Southern Pines radio dispatchers.

Southern Pines residents often use the Aberdeen Lake Recreation Area. Although much larger towns than Aberdeen, Raleigh and Durham have found that neither town could support as good an airport as the two towns could support together. This approach to the area's urban problems might well be beneficial in southern Moore County also.

Who sees that these plans are implemented?

For most of the services and facilities considered in this report, it is the responsibility of the local town and county governments to see that they are provided. However, governments are more than just organizations. They are made up of interested and informed citizens as well. It is unlikely town or county governments will spend money for new or improved services unless their citizens show an interest and an awareness of the need for such services. In the final analysis, it is the responsibility of the local citizen to see that community services and facilities are adequate to meet the needs of the present and projected population of the area.

## FORM OF GOVERNMENT

The Town of Aberdeen operates under a mayor-commission form of government. The five commissioners are elected for two-year terms and serve without pay. The mayor is also elected for two years and serves without pay.

Under the commission system of town government, the administrative functions of town government are divided into areas and assigned to the individual commissioners for general administration. Aberdeen has divided these functions into five groups: Police and Sanitation; Fire and Lights; Water and Sewer; Streets; and Finances. After each board is elected the mayor assigns these five jobs to the men elected.

The theory of the commission form of government is that an elected official is made the administrative head of the various departments of town government and that each commissioner is directly responsible for the operation of his department. Because the commissioner is responsible for supervising his department, it is necessary for him to have skills in not only administration but also in the particular field he is supervising. As the services and facilities offered by towns become more and more complex, it becomes more difficult to always elect men who are competent to supervise the operations of these departments. Also, where commissioners are not paid it is difficult to find men who have the necessary time to adequately supervise and manage their departments.

Many towns have found that there is a need for full-time supervision of municipal functions and have hired professional city managers to operate municipal functions on a day to day basis. The elected officials still retain responsibility for policy decisions but turn the day to day management functions over to a full-time administrator.

Should Aberdeen feel that closer day to day management and professional supervision is needed, the council-manager form of government might be considered. If a complete change of government is not desired, the Board of Commissioners might want to simply strengthen the authority of one of its employees for daily administration and decision-making.

In reviewing various town ordinances it was found that the last comprehensive codification of municipal ordinances was in the 1930's. Ordinances passed since then are recorded and filed individually on separate sheets of paper. Many old and obsolete ordinances are still in effect. The town should have either a consulting firm that specializes in codification of ordinances or the town attorney review, update, and codify the existing ordinances. After a current set of town ordinances is assembled, they should be published and made available to the public.

It was also noticed that many town policies are informal in nature and have never been publically recorded. This is especially true in the area of development policies such as utility and street extensions. These policies should be recorded and published so they will be available as public information.

## MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The present Aberdeen Municipal Building is located on a tract of land in the central business district approximately one acre in size. The site is bounded by Poplar Street, U. S. 1, and Main Street. Page Memorial Library and the Aberdeen Fire Department are also located on this land.

The present building was constructed in 1957 to serve as a municipal building. Both the building and the grounds are attractive and well maintained. Facilities housed in the building include the town clerk's office, the Driver License Examiner's office, a courtroom, the police department and the jail. Each of these functions will be examined below in regards to the adequacy of present facilities and personnel as well as future space and personnel needs.

### Town Clerk's Office

The office of the town clerk occupies one room of approximately 400 square feet in the Municipal Building. There is a window-counter at the north end of the room which allows customers to pay their water and sewer bills without entering the clerk's office. At present there are two full-time employees who use the office, the town clerk, and an assistant. The present space arrangements are completely satisfactory for the work of the clerk's office. If future growth requires the addition of another worker on the clerk's staff, there would also be sufficient room. Therefore, it is felt that the present office space for the clerk will be adequate during the planning period. Storage space is also adequate. A walk-in vault across the hall from the clerk's office meets the town's needs for a safe storage place for papers and documents.



### Courtroom

The courtroom occupies a room of approximately the same size as the clerk's office. It has been adequate in the past for the work of the Recorder's Court. In the future, courtroom facilities will not be needed in Aberdeen. The recent Court Reform Act changed the system of North Carolina courts, and there will not be a Recorder's Court in Aberdeen. The work of this court will be the responsibility of District Courts in Carthage and Southern Pines. There is a possibility of one Magistrate of the District Court being assigned to Aberdeen. However, he would not need a courtroom and it is doubtful the town would even have to furnish an office for a magistrate. Recommendations have been made in the Police Protection section of this report concerning the possible use of the courtroom for police activities. A small, private conference room for use by the mayor and other town officials might also be made from this area.

### Driver License Examiner

The Driver License Examiner presently uses the large room adjacent to the clerk's office. This room is also used by the county tax department for listing taxes. The room is larger than is needed for its present function. After the courtroom is no longer needed the town might want to move these functions into part of that space and use this room for a conference and assembly room.

### Police

The police office is housed in the north end of the Municipal Building adjacent to the jail. The police department is discussed in detail in the Police Protection section of this report. To summarize the space needs of the police department, it is recommended that part of the courtroom be partitioned into a police chief's office and an interrogation room. Additional storage space could be added at the same time. The jail was

found to be completely adequate in regards to space requirements and should be adequate throughout the planning period. However, the North Carolina Jail Inspector has pointed out the necessity for better supervision. This is discussed under the Police Protection section.

#### Analysis and Summary of Recommendations

The present Aberdeen Municipal Building should be more than adequate to serve the town for the remainder of the planning period. It appears that adequate space will be available especially after the Recorder's Court is no longer in operation. It does appear that better use might be made of the available space if the present courtroom were divided into smaller offices for the police department and the Driver License Examiner. The present Driver License Examiner's office could then be used for an assembly room or for temporary uses such as listing taxes.

## POLICE PROTECTION

### Introduction

The purpose of the police department is to preserve the peace and to protect the lives and property of the townspeople. This is done basically by enforcing the rules of society as expressed through various governmental laws and regulations. The Aberdeen Police Department consists of two policemen and a chief. This staff provides the town with police protection 24 hours per day seven days per week. The department patrols the incorporated area and goes into the extraterritorial area on request or when the necessity becomes apparent.

### Facilities

The police department operates out of an office in the Aberdeen Municipal Building. The police office consists of one room with desks for the three policemen and space for necessary files. There is closet space for storing supplies and confiscated items and a restroom for policemen. The jail is adjacent to the police office. The police office and the jail were built as part of the Municipal Building in 1957 and are in good condition.

### Equipment

The major item of equipment used by the police department is its patrol car. The present patrol car is a 1967 Chevrolet. It is equipped with a radio which allows the officer to maintain communication with the Southern Pines Police Department. Two phones in the business district allow an officer in that area to receive calls. However, there are no dialing devices on these phones and calls cannot originate from them. The

department also has some minor equipment such as first aid kits, tear gas guns and grenades, fingerprinting kits, and night sticks. Police uniforms are furnished by the town and the policemen furnish their individual handguns.

#### Personnel and Training

In hiring new officers the police chief attempts to find persons having a high school education, no court record, weighing over 160 pounds, and between the age of 21 and 35. After a new officer is hired, an effort is made to send him to one of the police schools sponsored by the technical institutes or community colleges in nearby areas. Members of the force normally attend a refresher course sponsored by one of these schools or the larger law enforcement agencies once or twice a year.

Three officers attempting to provide the town with 24 hour police protection inevitably find themselves working long shifts and many hours each week. The minimum number of hours a policeman can work under this arrangement would be eight hours per day seven days per week or 56 hours per week. Each policeman gets one day a week off and this means longer shifts that day for the other two officers. Vacations, sick leave, court appearances, and many other similar occurrences make long shifts necessary with such a small force.

#### Jail

The Aberdeen jail is relatively new and in good condition. There are six cells each having space for two prisoners. The cells are separated so that prisoners can be segregated according to sex. There are toilet facilities available in each cell and there is a shower room in the cell block.

Recent inspections by jail inspectors show that the physical facilities are for the most part adequate and should serve the town satisfactorily during the planning period.

Minor deficiencies noted in the physical facilities included soiled bed linens and inadequate mattresses. The major deficiency noted concerned the operation of the jail. New North Carolina legislation requires that supervisory personnel must be on duty at all times when prisoners are confined in the jail. The present small police force cannot comply with this regulation and at the same time perform its other duties.

#### Safety Program

The police department each year gives a talk at the beginning of school to the school children on proper street crossing procedures. Throughout the school year officers check at the two schools to see that students are using proper safety precautions when they arrive and leave the schools. A pedestrian tunnel under U. S. 1 at the Aberdeen High School eliminates the necessity of students crossing the only major traffic artery in the vicinity of the schools.

#### Analysis and Recommendations

For a police department to be effective it must be readily available whenever needed. The nearest policeman should not be further away than the nearest phone. In order to accomplish this, a department in a small town such as Aberdeen must have good communications. At present, and in the immediate future, the minimum satisfactory level of protection for Aberdeen should be to have one officer on duty in town at all times. Since much of an officer's time is spent patrolling on foot or in a car, the policeman cannot always be available at a phone. At the same time North Carolina legislation now calls for a jail attendant on duty at all times persons are confined in the town jail. This jail attendant does not have to be a policeman, but he can answer the police phone and relay police calls to the policeman on duty by radio.



In order to provide adequate police protection and satisfy the state laws regarding jail supervision, the following recommendations are made:

1. An additional officer should be hired in order to shorten the present police work week and bring it into a position comparable with other nearby police forces and other occupations.
2. Sufficient non-police personnel should be hired to provide 24 hour phone coverage and jail supervision.
3. Additional radio equipment should be acquired in order that the policeman on duty can be reached by the jail attendant no matter where the policeman is on duty in town.
4. In the future, expansion of the police force should be tied closely to population growth in town. With each population increase of 500 people, an additional policeman should be added to the staff.
5. By the time the staff has increased to the point that two policemen are on duty at the same time a second patrol car will be needed.

Although the present office facilities are in sound condition, additional office space could be used effectively by the department. A small room for the interrogation of persons by the police is needed badly. Present facilities make private interrogation very difficult. Also, there should be a separate office for the police chief where police files and papers can be out of public view and locked.

It is recommended that space for the police chief's office and an interrogation room be partitioned off from the space now used as a courtroom. The present courtroom will soon be unnecessary because this court will be abolished once the two new District Courts at Carthage and Southern Pines begin operation.

## SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

The Moore County Sheriff's Department has on its staff eight full-time deputies. The sheriff and chief deputy have their office in Carthage. Five of the deputies live in various communities throughout the county and work day shifts. Two additional deputies patrol the county at night. Special deputies are appointed in various communities and may be called when needed.

One deputy living in Aberdeen covers all of Moore County south of Southern Pines. All of the Aberdeen Planning Area is in his jurisdiction. At night two deputies patrolling in one car cover the entire county.

The sheriff's department has two radio operators. One works an eight-hour day shift and acts as a secretary for the department. The other operator works until one o'clock in the morning and is the jailer. This operator lives at the jail and is there throughout the night. However, calls are handled through the sheriff's home after one o'clock in the morning.

The department's radios are of the dial type and can communicate with most police departments in North Carolina. The Aberdeen police car can contact the sheriff's department through the Southern Pines police dispatcher.

Sheriff's deputies use their personal automobiles and are reimbursed for their expenses by the county. Radios and other equipment are furnished by the county.

### Recommendations

In all areas outside municipalities, the sheriff's department exercises responsibility for law enforcement. It does not seem possible that one patrol car could adequately serve an area the size of Moore County. If the patrol car were in the

area near the Randolph and Montgomery County lines, it would be over 40 miles from some sections of Moore County. Also, if two calls came in at the same time, there would be no one to answer the second call quickly.

An additional patrol car and personnel on duty at night would improve conditions immensely. One of the two cars should be assigned to patrol the thickly settled southern parts of the county including the unincorporated areas near Aberdeen, Southern Pines, West End, and Pinehurst. The other car could be assigned to patrol the northern sections of the county near Carthage and Robbins. If adequate protection is to be achieved, it will be necessary for the radio to be manned 24 hours a day. This would require at least two additional operators.

## RESCUE SQUAD

Rescue squads provide communities with trained people to furnish leadership and assistance in emergencies. Membership in squads is voluntary and members are not paid for their services. Financial support for the units also is voluntary. Donations of money and equipment come from interested individuals and groups.

The Moore County Unit 4 Rescue Squad is located in Aberdeen. It serves the communities of Southern Pines, Pinebluff, Pinehurst, and the rural parts of southern Moore County.

Moore County Unit 4, often called the Sandhills Unit, has 21 members. All members are required to pass the American Red Cross Standard and Advanced First Aid Courses. About one-third of the members have also attended the Rescue College at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill or the Rescue Institute offered at North Carolina State University at Raleigh. In addition to these formal training courses the members meet weekly and train in first aid, the use of rescue equipment, and other rescue techniques.

The Sandhills Unit is located in a permanent building adjacent to the Page's Lake Recreation Area on Lakeshore Drive in Aberdeen. The cement block building has storage space for the unit's vehicles and equipment, meeting rooms, and cooking facilities. The unit's major equipment includes two ambulance-type vehicles as well as a boat and motor. The ambulances are fully equipped with oxygen and other emergency ambulance equipment. They also carry some equipment for the rescue of persons trapped in wrecked automobiles. The boat and motor is used for rescue of drowning persons and is equipped with appropriate life saving equipment. There is also equipment for dragging lakes or streams for drowned persons. Plans call for the acquisition of a Crash Truck which

would be fully equipped with hydraulic push bars for rescue operations involving persons trapped in automobiles or similar wreckage.

According to Captain E. L. Guion, the most important need for the local unit is additional land in the vicinity of their present building. The land now occupied by the Rescue Squad is leased to it by the Aberdeen Playground Association for a nominal fee. Although this land is adequate in respect to location, it would be inadequate in size should it become necessary to expand the present building. The Rescue Squad would appear to be well advised in its attempt to acquire the necessary land before the need for expansion is urgent and the communities served should lend their assistance in this effort.

## FIRE PROTECTION

The Aberdeen Fire Department presently consists of twenty-one volunteer firemen. Major equipment and facilities include one fire station located in the downtown area and three pumper trucks. The department serves the town and the rural area surrounding the town.

The North Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau rates Aberdeen Class eight. This classification is used by fire insurance companies in setting fire insurance rates for individual structures in a community. Towns are classified from one to ten according to town fire defenses and structural conditions. With a lower rating number the town gets cheaper insurance rates.

### Personnel

The Aberdeen Fire Department has no paid firemen. The Aberdeen Volunteer Fire Department includes twenty-one men who meet once a month to receive instructions and to train in fire fighting procedures. The chief of the department receives \$20 a month; the other members are not paid. They are protected by insurance paid for by the town.

### Training

In addition to the regular monthly meeting of the department, individual members are encouraged to attend short courses on fire fighting held in nearby communities and colleges. At least two men usually are sent to the courses each year. The town pays for the fireman's expenses at these courses. In some years a six- or eight-week course is taught in Aberdeen for the members of the staff by an instructor from a nearby

college or fire department. An eight-week comprehensive course reviewing all phases of fire fighting in Aberdeen is planned this year.

### Equipment

The department's major items of equipment are listed below:

<u>Pumper Trucks</u>	<u>Pump Capacity</u>	<u>Booster Tank Capacity</u>	<u>Ladders</u>
1940 Ford	500 GPM	300 Gals.	1 extension
1955 Ford	500 GPM	500 Gals.	1 extension
1965 Ford	500 GPM	800 Gals.	1 extension
	<u>Hose</u>	<u>Feet</u>	
	one inch	1,000	
	one and one half inch	700	
	two inch	6,000	

In addition to the major items of equipment listed above, the department has an assortment of smaller items such as shovels, rakes, axes, fire extinguishers, and nozzels.

### Alarm System and Communications

The fire alarm system used to summon the volunteer firemen is a manually operated electric siren mounted on the roof of the fire station. The siren is checked daily at noon to see that it is operating. The town has telephones to answer fire calls at three locations, a 24-hour service station across from the fire station, the police department, and the fire chief's residence.

The 1965 pumper truck has a citizens band radio which can call or be reached through base stations at Southern Pines and Carthage.



### Fire Station

The Aberdeen Fire Station is located at the corner of Main Street and Chestnut Street adjacent to the Municipal Building. The main part of the building has two floors with parking space for two pumper trucks on the ground floor. This section of the building is quite old and is of brick construction. There is also a cement block annex to the building with space for parking the third fire truck. The ground floor of the fire station has space for parking two standard size pumpers and one smaller vehicle. In the rear of the old section of the building there are three small areas partitioned off and used for a toilet, a small storage area, and to house the building's heating system. There is no space outside the building suitable for use by the fire department. Firemen usually park across the street at a service station.

### Fire Hydrants and Water System

The service area of the municipal water system does not cover all developed areas of Aberdeen. In some areas there are water lines, but the lines are of insufficient size to provide fire protection. At present there are no fire hydrants on water lines of less than six inches in diameter and where there are six inch water mains, hydrants are adequately spaced for fire protection. However, there is probably insufficient pressure on some of the six inch lines to give satisfactory fire protection.

Specific instances where lack of water mains or fire hydrants create hazardous conditions are listed below:

1. The only fire hydrant within 500 feet of Lucks Cannery is on the opposite side of two railroad tracks.
2. The Berkley School is served by one fire hydrant located on a dead-end water main of approximately 3,000 feet. This same hydrant serves the entire residential area south of South Street and east of the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad.

3. Several residential areas along the eastern town limits are not within 500 feet of a fire hydrant.
4. Inadequate water pressure has been noticed in areas of high elevations throughout Aberdeen, particularly when water is low in the elevated storage tank.

#### Fire Protection Outside Town

The present policy of the Town of Aberdeen is to answer any fire calls from inside or outside the municipal limits. When a call from outside the municipal limits is received, only one truck answers and a standby crew is left at the fire station to be available for possible calls in town.

#### Fire Prevention and Inspection Program

At present the only efforts being made toward a fire prevention program in Aberdeen are related to Fire Prevention Week. These efforts are primarily concerned with display posters and education material.

#### Standards<sup>1</sup>

1. The fire station should be:
  - a. centrally located in the area to be served;
  - b. adjacent to the high value business district;
  - c. convenient to the major thoroughfares.
2. The site and fire station should provide:
  - a. indoor and outdoor maintenance areas;
  - b. indoor and outdoor training and assembly areas;
  - c. adequate space to store present and future equipment;

---

<sup>1</sup> These standards were compiled from Municipal Fire Administration (Chicago, 1967).

- d. adequate off-street parking for firemen's automobiles;
  - e. good access to adjacent streets.
3. Fire hydrants should be:
- a. on water mains six inches in diameter or larger;
  - b. located less than 500 feet apart in high value districts;
  - c. located within 500 feet of structures in low density residential areas;
  - d. marked with reflective material to make night location easy.
4. The water system:
- a. should serve all developed areas of town;
  - b. should not have dead-end mains which give inadequate fire pressure;
  - c. should provide the following fire flows:

<u>Town Population</u>	<u>Gallons Per Minute</u>	<u>Gallons Per Day</u>	<u>Duration (Hours)</u>
1,500	1,250	1.8 million	5
2,000	1,500	2.16 million	6
3,000	1,750	2.52 million	7

Personnel Standards. Towns of less than 10,000 population are considered adequately protected if they have a minimum of one full-time fire company. Where volunteer companies are used, four volunteers are needed to replace one full-time fireman. All firemen, volunteers and full-time firemen, should be adequately trained in all phases of fire fighting.

Small towns should make it their goal to provide one full-time fire company. The fire insurance rating bureau feels that the first step toward a full-time company should be to hire sufficient full-time men to have one man on duty at all times.

## Analysis and Recommendations

Personnel. According to the standard ratio of four volunteer firemen for each full-time fireman, Aberdeen has the equivalent of four full-time firemen with its present force. In order to bring the force up to an adequate level, two or three full-time firemen should be hired. This would give the town the equivalent of one full-time company and provide a man at the station at all times to answer fire calls, notify volunteers of the fire, and prepare the equipment for their arrival.

Training. The department should begin a continuing training program to instruct all firemen in the various phases of fire fighting. The recommendations of the N. C. Fire Insurance Rating Bureau to the Town of Aberdeen concerning a comprehensive training program should be carried out.

Equipment. The department presently has two pumper trucks recognized as adequate by the Fire Insurance Rating Bureau. After twenty years of age, pumpers are recognized only for reserve use. Thus, the 1955 pumper will go on reserve status in 1975 and the 1965 pumper will be good until 1985. Although one pumper would probably be sufficient for a one company fire department, if the policy of answering calls outside of town is still in effect in 1975, another pumper should be acquired and the 1940 reserve pumper should be discarded.

The following list of minor equipment is needed at present:

1. Foam generating equipment and materials.
2. Hose drying facilities.
3. Protective clothing and equipment for firemen.
4. Salvage covers and a supply of brooms, mops, buckets, and squeegees for clean-up operations.

Communications. As soon as full-time firemen are hired, there should be a base radio station installed in the fire station. Until full-time firemen are hired, the base radio station recommended for the police station could also be used for fire department use.

Fire Station. A site for the relocation of the fire station should be acquired. A site meeting the site standards listed above and located on South Street or Poplar Street would be most desirable. It is felt that construction of the new station should have a lower priority than improvements in the water system but that acquisition of a suitable site should be an immediate concern.

Fire Hydrants. All fire hydrants should be inspected and greased twice per year. All gate valves should be inspected and greased once a year. Future fire hydrants should be installed according to the standards listed above.

Water System. The present water system should be expanded to give water service and fire protection to all developed areas of Aberdeen. Particular emphasis should be put on insuring that future water main extensions are large enough to give adequate fire protection. Areas served by inadequate dead-end mains should be improved by inter-connecting these mains to insure adequate fire pressure at all hydrants.

Fire Regulations and Inspections. Modern fire regulations and inspections should be carried out as suggested in the 1962 recommendations of the N. C. Fire Insurance Rating Bureau.

## MUNICIPAL SEWER

The Town of Aberdeen has had sanitary sewer for many years. Even though not all areas in town are served by the sewer system, several areas outside the municipality are served. Sewers built in town have normally been built from general tax funds or bond election money in the past. Sewers built outside town and connected to the town have been built at the expense of the developer.

### Sewerage Treatment Plant

The Lumber River Basin Pollution Survey Report<sup>1</sup> found in 1963 that Aberdeen's waste treatment plant was inadequate. This facility, which is still being used, includes an Imhoff tank, preceded by a hand-cleaned bar screen and a grit chamber, and sludge beds. The facilities are located near Aberdeen Creek south of the municipal limits.

Because of the inadequacy of these waste treatment facilities, the Town of Aberdeen has begun construction of a new waste treatment plant south of the present facilities. The new waste treatment plant will have a capacity for treating 750,000 gallons of effluent per day. This capacity is designed to serve the town's present 1,500 people plus a population increase of fifty percent. This plant should be adequate for the town throughout the planning period. Should unexpected growth occur, the new plant may be readily expanded by duplication of treatment units on the present site.

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<sup>1</sup> 1963 Lumber River Basin Pollution Survey Report, pp. 43 and 44, prepared by the North Carolina State Stream Sanitation Committee of the State Department of Water Resources, Raleigh, N. C.

Because of the drainage pattern of the Aberdeen Planning Area, it is expected that most of the planning area north of the new treatment plant can be served by a gravity flow sewer system.

#### Sanitary Sewer System

All of the existing Aberdeen sewer system operates by gravity flow. Although there are several large developed areas in the planning area not served by municipal sewer, it is felt that most of these developed areas can be served by a gravity flow system.

#### Analysis and Recommendations

As is apparent from the Sewage Treatment Plant section, the Town of Aberdeen has already taken steps to provide for its future waste treatment needs. The plant now under construction is expected, as was stated above, to be adequate for the Aberdeen Planning Area throughout the planning period. Thus, the main deficiency of sewer service in the Aberdeen area is in the lack of sufficient sewer lines to serve all developed areas within the incorporated area. Construction of new lines should be a high priority item in the Aberdeen budget for the next few years.

Insufficient topographic and engineering information exists for new lines to be located without an engineering survey. However, it is felt that in providing sewer service to these unserved areas the town should work toward a regional system of outfall lines along the major streams rather than a series of short lines projecting into the unsewered areas from the existing system. See the Aberdeen Sewer Map at the end of this section. From available topographic information it appears that two outfall lines north of town would serve all that area expected to develop during the planning period. Another outfall line north of N. C. 211 would serve the Berkley area and east Aberdeen. The general location of lines needed to serve the areas now without sewer and the



areas expected to develop during the planning period are shown on the Aberdeen Sewer Map.

It should be pointed out that these suggested locations are not made to engineering detail and should not be used for construction purposes. An engineer should be hired by the town to make actual sewer line locations before construction begins. These suggested locations are made to outline a system of outfall lines to serve the areas expected to need sewer service during the planning period.



# LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## RESIDENTIAL

- Low Density
- High Density

## COMMERCIAL

## SEWER SYSTEM

- Existing Sewer Lines
- Proposed Sewer Lines
- Proposed Service Area
- Sewage Treatment Plant

## THOROUGHFARES

- |       | Existing | Proposed |
|-------|----------|----------|
| Major |          |          |
| Minor |          |          |





# LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## RESIDENTIAL



Low Density



High Density



COMMERCIAL



INDUSTRIAL



SOCIAL & CULTURAL



AGRICULTURAL &  
FOREST

## THOROUGHFARES

Existing

Proposed

Major

Minor





## MUNICIPAL WATER

Aberdeen's water system consists basically of a spring-fed lake and three wells supplying water to two water storage facilities and to the distribution system.

### Water Supply

Aberdeen's water supply comes from a spring-fed lake with a yield of 325,000 gallons per day and three wells whose total capacity is uncertain but thought to be approximately 372,000 gallons per day. Thus the total yield from both the wells and the lake is thought to be 700,000 gallons per day or 21,000,000 gallons per month. This total was compiled by adding the estimated yield from each of Aberdeen's wells and the lake.

The uncertainty concerning the yield from the town's three wells is due to the unknown effect that the new wells will have upon the older well and its spring-fed lake. In August, 1967, the old well and the lake could not supply the town with enough water, and additional water had to be piped from Southern Pines through a fire hose. Because of the water crisis at that time, the town had a second and third well drilled. These wells tested to yield 108,000 gallons per day and 180,000 gallons per day respectively. Complications since that time have cast some doubt as to whether the total yield from all water sources have been increased by that amount. The apparent yield from the town's older well has dropped. It is not known at this time whether the new wells have tapped the water source of the older well thus reducing the yield from the older well or whether the apparent drop in yield from the older well is caused by other reasons. Also, the new wells have not been in operation during a peak summer season when water demand is greatest and all wells are operating at near capacity.



### Water Demand

Water demand in Aberdeen is relatively high because of the large amounts used for industry. Also, the industrial use of water in the past has been highly seasonal. The principal industrial users are the carpet plant outside town and the cannery in town.

The table below indicates the amount of water used by the town in 1967 and the amount used by the principal industrial user, the carpet plant. The table indicates that for the month of August, 1967, when the town ran out of water, the mill used almost seven million gallons of water. Since then the mill has installed equipment to allow water to be reused in its manufacturing processes, and in January, 1968, its estimated water use was only one million gallons as compared to 2.4 million gallons in the previous January. It is not known for certain what the mill's peak summer use will be in the future, but using a ratio of previous high use to previous low use the mill could be expected to have a peak summer demand of about three million gallons. This would be four million gallons less than last year's peak demand, and would reduce the town's total peak demand to about 13 million gallons.

#### WATER USE IN ABERDEEN (1967)

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>TOTAL USED BY TOWN</u>	<u>PORTION USED BY MILL</u>
January	January-April average	2.4 million gallons
February	use eleven million	2.4 million gallons
March	gallons, ten million	2.4 million gallons
April	<u>gallons low use</u>	3.6 million gallons
May	13.7 million gallons	5.4 million gallons
June	13.0 million gallons	5.0 million gallons
July	13.4 million gallons	4.7 million gallons
August	17.1 million gallons	6.9 million gallons
September	12.7 million gallons	4.7 million gallons
October	12.1 million gallons	1.8 million gallons
November	10.7 million gallons	1.3 million gallons
December	10.0 million gallons	0.9 million gallons

### Water Supply and Demand

Although 1967 was a very dry year and the yield from the lake was probably lower than in normal years, the lake level appeared to be dropping during the late spring and early summer. At this time the town was using approximately 13 million gallons of water per month. The supply did hold out until August when the demand went to 17 million gallons per month. At that time water had to be piped in from Southern Pines. Thus prior to drilling the two new wells, the town's maximum yield in dry periods appears to have been about thirteen million gallons per month. How much this has been increased by the additional wells is an unknown factor until another period of peak demand tests the ability of the wells and lake to produce at maximum capacity over an extended period.

Even if the carpet plant has reduced its water needs substantially and the new well does increase the safe yield of the system, it does not appear that maximum supply exceeds maximum demand greatly.

### Water Quality and Treatment Facilities

Aberdeen does not treat its water other than adding fluoride and chlorine. This has been possible because only subsurface water from the lake or wells has been used. Tests to insure purity of the water are made periodically. The results of these tests indicate that the quality is not really good for domestic use. The water is high in acidity, and has some color, but is considered usable for domestic use. Potential industrial users should have the water tested to see if it meets their requirements.

### Water Storage Facilities

Water storage facilities include a 200,000 gallon elevated storage tank with a 30,000 gallon capacity standpipe and a 75,000 gallon ground water storage facility. These three facilities provide a total of 305,000 gallons of water storage. On peak

days the town has used over one half million gallons of water. The average day's consumption seems to be about 400,000 gallons.

The elevated storage tank is located north of the Aberdeen School on Chestnut Street. Although this location is higher than most of the area served by the distribution system, several areas are at approximately the same elevation. This apparently affects water pressure adversely in some of the area served by the water system, particularly when the water level in the tank is low.

#### Distribution System

The Aberdeen water distribution system provides water to the principal business, industrial, and residential areas in Aberdeen. Small areas outside the town to the north and west are also served. See the Aberdeen Water Map at the end of this section for areas served by the system.

Two major deficiencies exist in the present distribution system. First, it does not cover all the developed areas of Aberdeen. The largest area not served is the residential area of Berkley in the southeastern section of town. The second major deficiency is that there are several long dead-end mains in the system. There are some mains of less than six inches in diameter, but these small mains constitute a relatively small percent of the system.

The table below breaks down the system by main size. There are very few mains of less than four inches in size and these are not included.

#### ABERDEEN WATER MAINS

SIZE	4"	6"	8"	10"
NUMBER OF FEET:	1,016	29,742	8,996	2,958

### Water Main Extension Policy

In the past the town has paid the cost of installing water lines in streets. The individual has paid the cost of water lines on his property and the cost of connecting to the town system.

For extensions to areas outside the municipal limits, the individual requesting the lines must build them and dedicate the lines to the town prior to connecting to the town system.

### Water Rates

Aberdeen charges for water on a metered basis according to the amount used by the customer. Water rates for users outside the corporate limits are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the rate for Aberdeen residents.

### Standards

1. The minimum yield of a town's raw water source should be considerably greater than the town's maximum daily consumption.
2. Minimum pure water storage for a town should at least equal an average day's consumption.
3. The capacity of the water treatment plant should be planned to accommodate the maximum daily use of water during the plant's useful life.
4. Water main size, pumping capacity, and elevated tanks should be designed so that pressure for minimum fire flows can be met in any section of town. In general this means that six inch mains are the minimum acceptable size.
5. The water distribution system should serve all developed areas of town.

### Analysis and Recommendations

In 1965 the Town of Aberdeen had William F. Freeman, Inc., an engineering firm from High Point, study the town water and sewer system. In considering alternative water supply sources for the town, their study listed the following five possibilities:

1. To expand the existing water facilities.
2. To purchase water from Southern Pines.
3. To construct additional supply wells.
4. To construct a shallow dam and filtration plant on Aberdeen Creek.
5. To construct a reservoir and filtration plant on Aberdeen Creek.

This report dismissed possible expansion of the present site as impractical. Purchase of water from Southern Pines was thought to be too costly. The report said, "Wells drilled in various locations throughout the town have proven unsuccessful as additional water sources". The solution of a shallow dam and filtration plant was thought to be only a temporary solution.

The conclusion of the report was that a reservoir and filtration plant was the best solution and that purchasing water from Southern Pines was next best. The report's recommendation was to build a water treatment plant to handle 1.5 million gallons per day with provision for economical plant expansion if future demand required it.

Since this study has been completed, Moore County has initiated a study into the feasibility of a county-wide water system. This study is not yet completed. Should this study result in a county-wide water system, Aberdeen would have another alternative in solving its own water supply needs.

In the period of time since the survey of the Aberdeen water supply was made it has been learned that the town does not own or control all the watershed of the spring fed lake. In fact, a residential development is now under construction on part of the watershed. This situation has caused the State Board of Health to reclassify the lake as only a temporary source of water. Because of this situation the State Board of Health now

recommends that the town begin immediate efforts to secure a permanent source of water. Because of the doubtful quantity of water to be derived from wells and the relatively poor quality of water found in the area, they feel treated water is the most practical solution to the water problem.

One factor in particular should be kept in mind when considering a long-range solution. The fringe area surrounding Aberdeen is expected to develop more rapidly than the town itself during the planning period. Already it is estimated that there are 3,000 people in the town and the fringe area together. Some of these fringe area residents are now served by the Aberdeen water system. Whether or not these areas are annexed to the town, demand for water service is going to grow in the areas and the responsibility of serving them will most likely fall to Aberdeen.

An adequate raw water source is not the only improvement the Aberdeen water system needs. Using the standard that a town needs pure water storage equal to an average day's consumption, Aberdeen is presently short by about 100,000 gallons. As pointed out earlier in this section, the distribution system does not serve all developed areas of town. In some areas water pressure is not adequate. This should be remedied by a better system of looped and inter-connected mains together with additional elevated water storage facilities.

In conclusion it is thought that Aberdeen should begin work on the minor water system problems while consideration of the major problem of a new water source is taking place. The most logical solution of the town's need for a dependable water source would be to cooperate with other communities in the region in developing a large dependable supply and treatment facilities. This might be accomplished either through a county-wide water system as is now being studied or through regional agreements with the neighboring communities. If such a regional facility does not appear attainable within a short period of time, Aberdeen should begin to develop its own facility.



In dealing with immediate problems concerning water storage and the distribution system, the areas in town should have the first priority. In the areas outside town

the responsibility for building the distribution system will be with private landowners and developers for some time. The town can and should see that these lines will fit into an overall plan for serving these areas when they become part of the town, and the town should see that they are built only in areas suitable for development. This can be done by insuring that the lines are of suitable size for domestic and fire fighting needs and that the development they are to serve fits into a general plan of development for the entire area. Lines not fitting into the overall development plan should not be allowed to connect to the town system.



# LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## RESIDENTIAL

-  Low Density
-  High Density







## COMMERCIAL

## INDUSTRIAL

## SOCIAL & CULTURAL

## AGRICULTURAL & FOREST

## WATER SYSTEM

-  Existing 6" or larger water mains
-  Existing 4" or smaller water mains
-  Proposed loop system 6" or larger water mains
-  Well
-  Elevated Tank
-  Water Plant

## THOROUGHFARES

## Existing

## Proposed

## Major

## Minor

## Existing

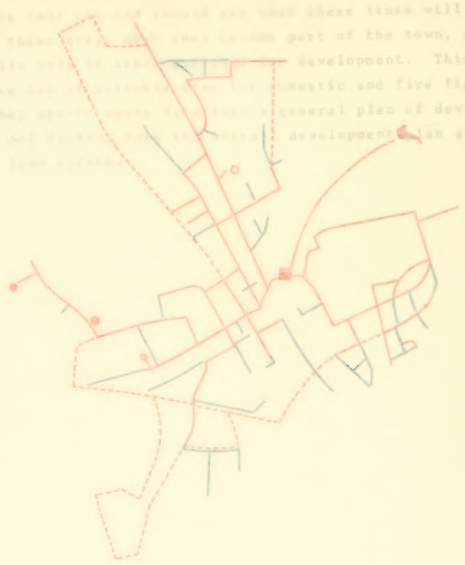
## Proposed



arrangement showing this will be given with private landowners and the  
 the lines will fit  
 the town, and the  
 development. This can  
 be done by the fire fighting  
 department and the  
 development of the  
 town.



WATER SYSTEM

- Existing 6" or larger  
 water mains
- Existing 4" or smaller  
 water mains
- Proposed loop system  
 6" or larger water mains
- Well
- Elevated Tank
- Water Plant



# LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## RESIDENTIAL

-  Low Density
-  High Density

## COMMERCIAL

## INDUSTRIAL

## SOCIAL & CULTURAL

## AGRICULTURAL & FOREST

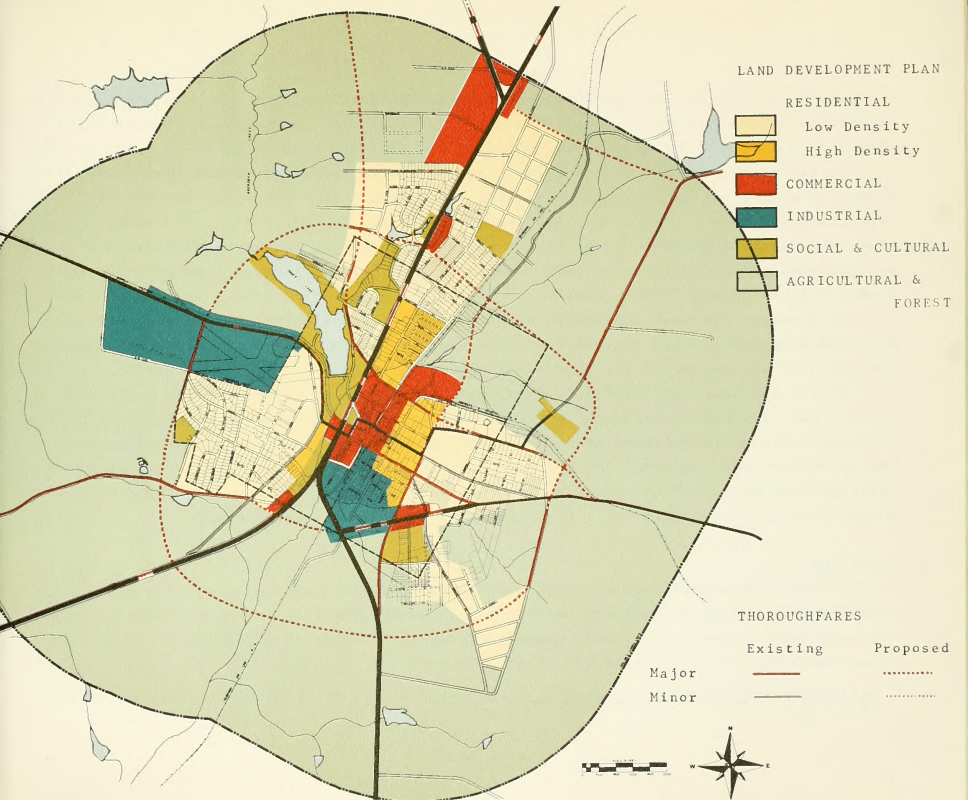
## THOROUGHFARES

Existing

Proposed

Major

Minor



## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

It has been estimated that the individual American throws away from one to two pounds of refuse daily. In urban areas the total weight of discarded materials is approximately twice as much, on a per capita basis, due to the rubbish and garbage from commercial establishments.<sup>1</sup> Because the volume of refuse is so great in an urban area and the need for regular disposal so important, the municipality has traditionally performed this service for its residents.

In Aberdeen the town sanitation department has responsibility for refuse collection and disposal. There is no fee for this service in town and no areas outside the municipality are served by the town sanitation department.

Within the past year (1967), refuse collection has been changed from one collection to two collections per week in residential areas. In commercial areas refuse is collected daily. In addition to refuse (garbage and rubbish), street and yard rakings are collected upon request. The present practice in Aberdeen is for the sanitation department to collect both refuse and other trash wherever it is placed. There is no policy that requires individuals to place it at the curb or behind homes.

### Operation

Aberdeen presently uses one packer truck and a three-man crew to collect garbage. Approximately two hours each day are required to collect refuse in the business district. The remainder of the day is spent serving the residential areas of Aberdeen. The

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<sup>1</sup> Refuse Disposal by Sanitary Landfill, Special Bulletin No. 479, N. C. Board of Health, 1965, p. 1.

collection system now used requires that one man drive the packer truck while two men collect refuse from homes and businesses. The packer truck is emptied at the town dump two or three times each day. The dump is located approximately one mile south of town between U. S. 1 and Aberdeen Creek.

#### Equipment

The major equipment of the sanitation department consists of one packer truck which hydraulically compacts refuse as it is collected. By compacting the refuse the truck reduces the volume of refuse and can carry a greater amount of refuse. This reduces the number of trips necessary to and from the dump. The packer truck is a 1968 model truck equipped with a 1968 packer body. Previous packer trucks used by the town have had a useful life of five or six years.

#### Public Waste Containers

Containers for the disposal of waste paper, food, and other trash are provided in public places. In the central business district, metal waste containers are located on the sidewalks. In parks and at the schools, 50-gallon drums are used as trash containers.

#### Personnel

The sanitation department has three men assigned to work at refuse collection full time. In addition, a man is sometimes assigned to the town dump to insure that individuals using the dump place refuse in the proper areas. The superintendent of the sanitation department devotes part of his time to supervision of the refuse collection system.

### Disposal

As mentioned previously, the town maintains a disposal area south of town between U. S. 1 and Aberdeen Creek. The disposal area is located on a wooded tract of approximately 8½ acres. The dump itself is less than one acre in size and is located on low land adjacent to Aberdeen Creek. The road leading from U. S. 1 to the site is dirt and can be closed by a gate. However, the gate is kept open and anyone is allowed to use the dump. No effort is made to incinerate or bury the refuse collected here. Occasionally, a private bulldozer operator is hired to move the collected refuse into a more compact pile so that the packer truck can get into the area to unload.

For the most part, Aberdeen residents are too far from the dump to be aware of it. However, there have been complaints from residents and businesses south of town who are occasionally disturbed by the odor and smoke generated by the dump. Disinfectants have been used to try to control the odors and bacteria that are produced by the decaying garbage. Rat poisons have been used to reduce the rodent population at the dump. However, the effects of these efforts are only temporary and odors, insects, and rodents can be found at the dump throughout the year and particularly during summer months.

### Analysis

In recent months the quality of refuse collection service in Aberdeen has improved. Collections in residential areas have increased from one to two per week. A new packer truck has been purchased and put into operation. Yet there are still problems remaining. The most important is that of refuse disposal. The town dump is unsanitary and objectionable because of odors, rodents, and insects which are produced there. This situation should be remedied in the near future.

Other towns faced with the same problem have resorted to a sanitary landfill operation. Information on the operation of sanitary landfill is readily available so it will



not be discussed here at length. Basically in a sanitary landfill operation, refuse is compacted by running a tractor back and forth over it and then buried. The refuse is covered with earth each day thus preventing piles of open refuse from accumulating. This effectively removes the breeding places of rodents, insects, and other disease carrying organisms. Odors, blowing trash, and open fires are also eliminated.

The second major problem faced by the sanitation department is the lack of a storage area for the new packer truck. The body of this truck is too high to be stored in the present town garage facilities. This means that this expensive piece of machinery has to be stored outdoors.

#### Recommendations

1. It is recommended that the Town of Aberdeen begin a sanitary landfill operation to dispose of refuse rather than continuing to use the present dump.
2. The property presently being used as a dump will not be suitable for a sanitary landfill due to the danger of flooding in this area.
3. The town should acquire a crawler type tractor for use at the landfill.
4. An additional man should be hired to operate the tractor at the landfill. This would not likely be a full time job and the tractor operator would be available for other work also.
5. A garage should be constructed for the purpose of storing the town's packer truck.
6. Regulations governing the type and location of garbage and trash containers should be adopted to insure sound containers and facilitate the work of collection crews.
7. If and when the garbage collection operation in Aberdeen expands to the point another crew is necessary, the town should consider the possibility of converting



to a garbage train collection system.

Alternative Recommendation

Rather than acquiring additional land and equipment to provide the town with a sanitary landfill, Aberdeen should consider contracting with Southern Pines for the joint use of the Southern Pines landfill. Such a course of action might prove feasible and perhaps more economical for both towns.

## TOWN GARAGE AND MAINTENANCE SHOP

Aberdeen's garage and maintenance facilities are located south of town on U. S. 1. The land used for parking and maintenance of the town's vehicles is part of a 8.65 acre tract which is also used for the town dump and for storage of excess town supplies such as water and sewer pipe.

The garage and maintenance shop are at the front of the property on U. S. 1. Other uses are at the rear of the property in wooded areas. The garage and maintenance building is of concrete block construction with a concrete floor. It is 24 feet by 60 feet in size and contains four stalls for vehicles and a separate storage area. The building itself is in adequate condition. Roads and driveways leading from the highway to the garage and into the dump and storage area are dirt.

### Town Service Policies

Maintenance on the town's vehicles is presently performed mostly by commercial garages. Minor repairs and service not requiring a mechanic is done by the crews operating vehicles. Therefore, the garage and maintenance area is used mostly for protecting vehicles from the weather when they are not in use and for storage of equipment and supplies used in the normal operation of the various departments. Major equipment garaged at the building includes two  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton trucks, one  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton truck, and a motor grader.

### Analysis and Recommendations

One of the major problems with the location of the town garage and maintenance area is adjoining land use. The adjoining property north of the town facility is used for a junk yard. In order to improve the appearance and efficiency of the town's facility, it

is recommended that a paved road and paved drives be constructed to serve the garage and maintenance areas and the town dump. After this is done, the town should landscape the entrance area to improve the appearance of the garage and maintenance area.

At present all storage space in the town's garage and maintenance building is being used and some vehicles do not have garage facilities. New garage facilities should be constructed in the outdoor storage area behind the present garage. Paved roads and drives should also serve this area.

This garage should be large enough to accommodate the town's new garbage packer truck and have room for additional vehicles the town might need in the next few years. This building could also have equipment for regular service of town vehicles such as might be found at an ordinary service station. Such equipment might include a pit for changing oil in the vehicles, equipment for changing tires, and an area to wash vehicles. It is not recommended that the town maintain complete garage facilities for major repair jobs.

The present 8.65 acre tract together with 20 additional acres the town owns in adjoining tracts should be adequate for its present uses during the planning period.

## STREETS

There are approximately 16 miles of streets in Aberdeen of which approximately seven are state maintained. Of the 16 miles of streets, 15 are paved and less than one mile is unpaved. In recent years it has been town policy to use Powell Bill funds for street paving almost exclusively. The remaining dirt streets maintained by the town are in undeveloped areas with almost no traffic. All state maintained streets are paved.

Repair and maintenance of streets in Aberdeen is the responsibility of the street department. Almost all repair and maintenance work is done by the department with the exception of surfacing and resurfacing streets which is contracted.

### Personnel

The street department has a force of four workmen and one supervisor. This crew also has responsibility for maintaining the water distribution system, the sewer system, and storm drainage.

### Equipment

The major items of equipment used by the street department are listed below:

- (2) Pickup Trucks: 1955 Ford and 1967 Chevrolet
- (1) 1½ Ton Open Body Truck: 1962 Chevrolet
- (1) Motor Grader: 1948 Gallion
- (2) Asphalt Kettle (50-gallon capacity)

In the past, Aberdeen's policy on the replacement of vehicles and equipment has been to replace an item when it was completely impractical to make repairs any longer. This policy has led to the use of many vehicles for periods up to ten years, fifteen years, and longer.

### Street Sweeping

A seven-man work crew consisting of four men from the street department and three men from the refuse collection department sweep the principal streets in the business district each morning. The task requires about an hour to complete. Other streets in town are swept when men are available. On many residential streets, particularly in the Colonial Heights area, large deposits of sand were noticed.

### Street Signs

A survey of Aberdeen indicated that intersections are well marked with street signs. It was noticed that the lettering on many signs has faded to the point it is difficult to read.

### Street Trees

Street trees do much to make a street more attractive if they are planted in an orderly manner and are well maintained. South Pinehurst Street and Poplar Street are perhaps the best examples of streets with street trees in Aberdeen. Very little organized effort has been made to plant trees along streets in the town. On occasions, the garden clubs have furnished trees and the town has set them out.

### Analysis

In recent years the town has carried out a policy of paving and resurfacing streets with money received from the Powell Bill Fund. This policy has resulted in almost all streets in town now being paved. Some of the older pavement was not of the highest quality; however, the need at that time was to eliminate dirt streets quickly and cheaper paving was contracted. Recent resurfacing has been of a much higher quality hot-mix asphalt. It is thought that this type material will be much more satisfactory

and economical over a long period and this policy should be continued.

The principal deficiencies of the existing Aberdeen streets are lack of adequate storm drainage and narrow streets with dangerous intersections. Recommendations concerning storm drainage are found in the section on storm drainage.

Due to the lack of a general plan when the Aberdeen street system was laid out, there are many narrow streets in town and many streets intersecting each other at acute angles. Many of Aberdeen's narrow streets are the result of streets being laid out in railroad rights-of-way. The intersection of North Pine Street and Fayetteville Street and some sections of Sycamore Street are examples of streets too close to railroads. One-way streets may be the answer in these cases because of the difficulty of acquiring additional right-of-way.

#### Recommendations

1. The policy of resurfacing streets with high quality asphalt should be continued.
2. Equipment replacement policies should be changed. Vehicles should be replaced on a regular basis such as every 4-5 years.
3. Consideration should be given to acquisition of equipment for general town maintenance work. One heavy equipment operator could probably operate a tractor at the proposed sanitary landfill, a street sweeping machine which would allow for better street maintenance, and a tractor equipped with a back hoe and a front-end loader for street work and utility lines maintenance.

#### Alternative Recommendation

It might be more economical for Aberdeen to enter into an agreement with Southern Pines to use major equipment and facilities such as these. Aberdeen might be able to have Southern Pines sweep Aberdeen streets several times per

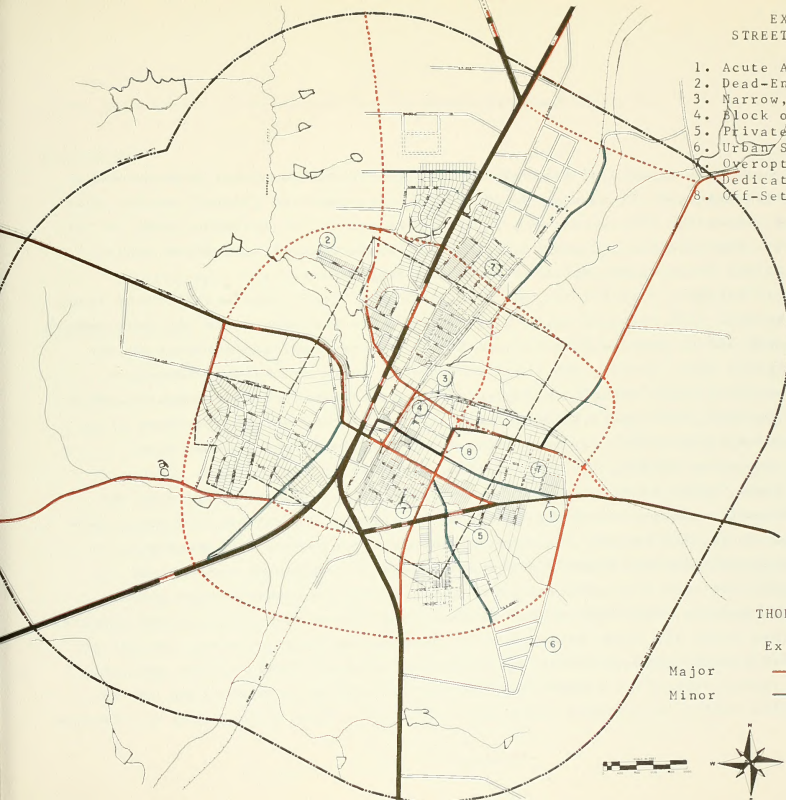
week rather than purchase a street sweeper and hire an operator. Arrangements might also be made for joint use of heavy equipment such as a tractor equipped with a back hoe and a front-end loader.

4. The street signs in Aberdeen should be re-lettered or replaced. A luminous paint would make the letters more easily identified at night. A high school student might be hired on a part-time basis in the summer for this project.
5. Several dangerous intersections and street conditions should be remedied.
  - a. Glasgow Street and Campbell Street should be widened.
  - b. The narrow curve at the Pine Street-Fayetteville Street intersection should receive attention. If the narrow right-of-way precludes widening, this section of street could be made a one-way traffic area.
  - c. Pine Street might be opened to connect with Raeford Road.
  - d. Main Street should be widened from Glasgow Street to Raeford Road.
  - e. The intersections of South Street and Main Street with Raeford Road east of town should be corrected so they do not intersect at acute angles.
6. The town should encourage and cooperate with private groups to plant trees along streets. Such efforts would accomplish more if they are concentrated on particular streets rather than scattered throughout town. Experience in Aberdeen indicates that Dogwood trees interfere less with utility lines above and below the ground than other varieties.
7. Future subdivision regulations should include street standards that will prevent new streets from being built with deficiencies such as pointed out in this report.



# EXAMPLES OF STREET DEFICIENCIES

1. Acute Angle Intersection
2. Dead-End Street
3. Narrow, Blind Curve
4. Block of Inadequate Size
5. Private, Unplated Streets
6. Urban Sprawl
7. Overoptimistic Street Dedication & Acceptance
8. Off-Set Intersection



## THOROUGHFARES

	Existing	Proposed
Major		
Minor		



## STORM DRAINAGE

Aberdeen Creek and several of its tributaries flow through town and form a natural drainage pattern. Along U. S. 1 below Aberdeen Lake the stream is cleared out and open in most places. However, the town is not taking advantage of the drainage basin to the fullest extent. Storm sewers and gutters are needed in all densely developed areas of town to channel the storm water into the natural drainage basin.

The central business district and the U. S. 1-Poplar Street area are the only large sections of Aberdeen with adequate curb, gutter, and storm drainage. See the Curb and Gutter Map at the end of this section for specific areas covered. In addition to the areas with complete curb, gutter, and storm drainage as shown on the map, there are several smaller areas where asphalt, roll-type curbs have been installed. Most residential areas of Aberdeen have just side-ditches to take off storm water. In these areas the town will install driveway culverts if the owner will furnish the materials. Financing for new curb, gutter, and storm drainage has varied in the past. On state maintained streets, state funds are available sometimes. The town normally pays the full cost when small sections are installed to protect street pavements. On large projects, the cost is divided between the town and the property owner; each paying half.

The presence of temporary asphalt drains and roadside ditches in sections of Aberdeen suggests the need for permanent curb, gutter, and underground storm drains. Permanent curbs, gutters, and storm drains offer several advantages over asphalt gutters. When barrier-type curbs are used, cars are prevented from leaving the street except at driveways. They protect road shoulders and prevent erosion of shoulders and pavement. They create a visual separation between yards and streets which is attractive and encourages property owners to maintain yards up to the curb. They require less maintenance

since automobiles do not break them up as they do asphalt curbs.

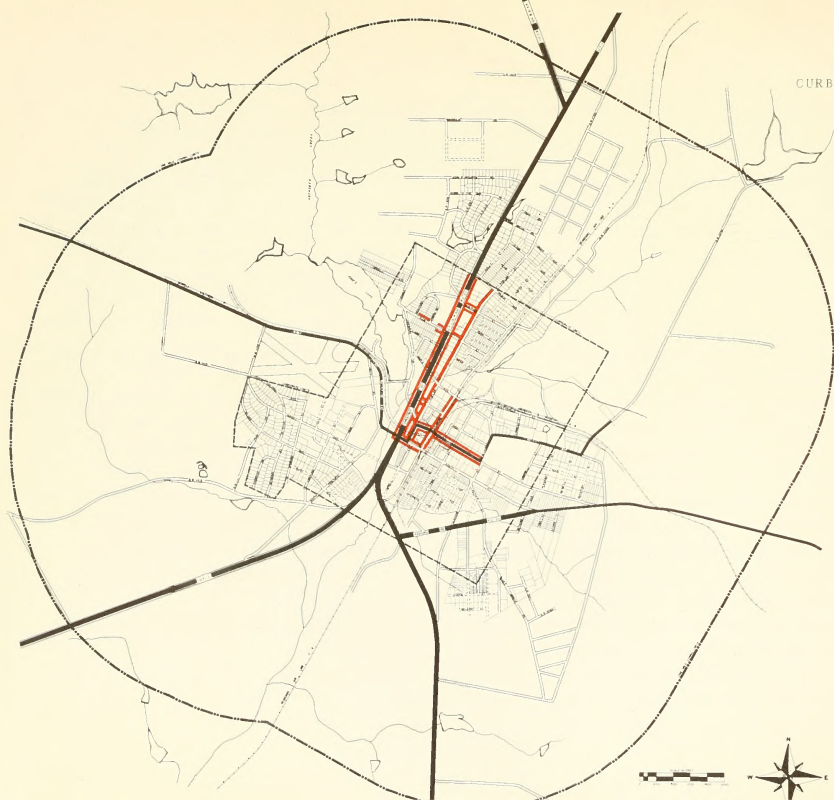
#### Standards

1. Storm drainage should be tied in with natural drainage basins where possible.
2. Where natural drainage basins are used, these water courses should be kept free of trash build-ups so storm water can be moved quickly out of developed areas.
3. Natural water courses should be given annual inspections to prevent trash build-ups, and they should be cleaned out and rechanneled as needed.

#### Recommendations

1. Aberdeen should inspect and clean out all of the natural water courses draining the town.
2. Aberdeen should install barrier-type curb and gutter together with underground storm drains on the principal traffic carrying streets where it does not exist. South Street and Main Street east of Blue Street should receive immediate attention. On streets not carrying large volumes of traffic but needing storm drainage, permanent roll-type curbs may be sufficient in most cases.
3. Areas where extensive roadside ditches and temporary asphalt drains have been installed should be considered for permanent curb, gutter, and storm drains.
4. Areas where roadside ditches continue to be used should be inspected regularly and cleaned out as needed.
5. Future subdivision regulations should require developers to install adequate curb, gutter, and storm drainage.
6. The town should adopt a policy of assessing the property owner for at least part of the cost of curb, gutter, and storm drainage.

ABERDEEN, N.  
CURB AND GUTTER



## SIDEWALKS

Most of Aberdeen is not served by sidewalks. West of U. S. 1 there are no sidewalks in the town. East of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad tracks, only Main Street has any sidewalks, and the Main Street sidewalks extend only three blocks to the east from the business district. The central business district is the only area in town that is well served by sidewalks. U. S. 1 has sidewalks from the business district north to the Aberdeen High School. Poplar Street has sidewalks from the business district north to the city limits.

There is a tendency today for people to overlook the need for sidewalks because of the widespread use of the automobile. Because adults who drive use sidewalks less now than before the automobile age, they tend to forget there are groups who do not drive or do not have automobiles. A large part of the population consists of children and teenagers who must walk or ride bicycles. Sidewalks provide safe pedestrian paths for children on their way to school. Sidewalks are also used by adults who do not or cannot drive because of their age or for other reasons.

### Recommendation

Aberdeen should provide sidewalks connecting the major residential areas to the central business district and to the schools. All streets with heavy automobile and pedestrian traffic should have sidewalks. See the Sidewalk Map on the following page for existing and proposed sidewalk locations.



SIDEWALK

Existing

Pr





## SCHOOLS

At present Aberdeen's two schools, Aberdeen High School and Berkley School, operate as union schools offering grades 1-12. Both schools are a part of the Moore County Administrative Unit. Future plans call for all high school students, grades 9-12, from the two schools to attend the new Pinehurst High School which is now under construction. The new facility is expected to open in September of 1969.

In May of 1967, the Division of School Planning of the N. C. State Department of Public Instruction conducted a comprehensive school facilities survey of the Moore County schools. This survey, made at the request of the Moore County Board of Education, surveyed, evaluated, and made advisory recommendations concerning the entire Moore County School System. Since this current evaluation of Aberdeen schools already exists, it was thought that the results of the survey should be reprinted here.

The specific findings of the survey committee pertaining to the two Aberdeen facilities are reprinted below. These findings include general information, construction data, an engineering evaluation, and a summary of each plant for each of the two Aberdeen facilities. Following these fact sheets which were assembled by the survey committee, there is a compilation of the committee recommendations as to the needs of the two Aberdeen schools and their suggestions as to future use of the two Aberdeen schools. Following the material prepared by the Division of School Planning, there is a section which will include a brief analysis of the future school situation in Aberdeen. In this section emphasis will be given to school needs as they relate to the Town of Aberdeen rather than the Moore County Board of Education.



## Evaluation of the Aberdeen Schools<sup>1</sup>

### Aberdeen (Union)

#### ° General Information

- . Size of site - 15 acres
- . Grades housed - 1-12
- . Number of teachers - 47
- . Year built - 1921 Additions - 1923, 1942, 1946, 1947, 1949, 1952, 1955, 1956 and 1959
- . Number enrolled - 1,010
- . Mobile units - 5

#### ° Construction Data

- . Classrooms - general - 29 - Primary - 1955 - 4 good  
Elementary - 1949 - 12 poor - 4 fair  
High School - 1921-1946 - 9 poor
- . Library - 2 - High School - poor  
Elementary - poor - small
- . Science labs - 1 - poor
- . Home economics rooms - 1 - poor
- . Commercial rooms - 1 - poor
- . Music rooms - 1 - good
- . Multipurpose rooms - 1 - fair
- . Teachers' lounge - 3 - fair
- . Shop - 1 - fair
- . Shop classrooms - 1 - fair
- . Gymnasium - 1 - fair
- . Dressing rooms - 2 - fair
- . Auditorium - 1 - good
- . Kitchen - 1 - fair (needs partition)
- . Dining - 1 - fair

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<sup>1</sup> This section was taken from the 1967 Moore County School Survey made by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Division of School Planning.

° Engineering Evaluation

- The original building, constructed in 1921, is a three-story steel frame structure with exterior walls of masonry and plaster with interior walls of masonry and plaster with interior walls wood frame and plaster. The exterior walls have leaked and the plaster is deteriorating. The floors are worn badly and in many places are unlevel due to settling. Some of the exterior walls have minor cracking and some bricks are spalling. Some windows need replacing. There are wood and steel beams exposed in the boiler room without fireproofing. The heating is adequate and the level of illumination is fair with light intensity ranging from forty to fifty foot candles. The toilets need updating. Even though this building appears to be structurally sound, major renovation will be difficult to justify due to its age and other deficiencies.
- The 1949 gymnasium, cafeteria and classroom buildings are fire-resistive and are satisfactory except level of illumination is unsatisfactory in the classrooms and like areas. The level of intensity is only twenty foot candles.
- The 1952 shop is a fire-resistive building and is satisfactory except the level of illumination should be improved.
- The 1955 primary building is fire-resistive and is satisfactory except the level of illumination is low. Light intensity varies from twenty to forty foot candles.
- The 1956 auditorium is fire-resistive and is satisfactory.

° Summary

- Site - below minimum standards
- Classrooms - 4 primary and 4 elementary meet minimum standards  
all others are below minimum standards
- Library - below minimum standards
- Lunchroom - meets minimum standards
- Auditorium - meets minimum standards
- Special facilities - meet minimum standards
- All facilities - poor to good

## Berkley (Union)

### ° General Information

- . Size of site - 7.75 acres
- . Grades housed - 1-12
- . Number of teachers - 26
- . Year built - 1949 Additions - 1953, 1957, and 1962
- . Number enrolled - 536
- . Mobile units - 2
- . Principal's home - 1945

### ° Construction Data

- . Classrooms - general - 16 - Elementary - 8 good  
High School - 8 poor  
Stage as classroom - poor
- . Library - 1 - poor
- . Science labs - 2 - fair
- . Business education room - 1 - fair
- . Home economics rooms - 1 - poor
- . Shop - 1 - poor
- . Kitchen - 1 - poor (Grade B)
- . Dining - 1 - poor
- . Gymnasium - 1 - fair

### ° Engineering Evaluation

- . The original building, constructed in 1949, is fire-resistive and with minor renovation should serve for several years. The toilets should be updated and the building should be rewired and relighted if continued.
- . The 1953 gymnasium is fire-resistive and is satisfactory except cracked non-loadbearing walls need repairing and the shop room in the basement needs a fireproof ceiling.
- . The 1959 cafeteria and classroom building is fire-resistive and is satisfactory except the cracked interior nonloadbearing walls and roof should be repaired.

° Summary

- . Site - below minimum standards
- . Classrooms - 8 meet minimum standards; 8 below minimum standards
- . Library - below minimum standards
- . Lunchroom - meets minimum standards
- . All facilities - poor to good
- . Special facilities - meet minimum standards

Survey Committee Recommendations<sup>2</sup>

1. Begin the development of a long-range plan for a kindergarten program.
2. Complete the Pinecrest High School as planned for an expected enrollment of approximately 1,600 pupils.
3. Enlarge the school sites at Aberdeen and Berkley Schools.
4. Make site improvements in landscaping and drainage at both Aberdeen schools.
5. Develop hard surface play areas at both Aberdeen schools.
6. Endeavor to raise the level of performance of maintenance of buildings (floors, painting, lighting, roofs, sites, etc.) higher than it has been in the past.
7. Recognizing that the stated intention of the Moore County Board of Education is to continue a basic 8-4 system of organization, the survey committee recommends that both Aberdeen schools offer grades 1-8. The committee also recognized that other school organization systems might work equally as well.
8. The old Aberdeen High School building should be eliminated. New classrooms should be constructed to replace the old building. Other buildings at the

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<sup>2</sup> These recommendations were extracted from the Moore County School Survey. Only recommendations immediately pertinent to the Aberdeen schools are included here. See the Moore County School Survey for the complete recommendations of the survey committee.

Aberdeen School should be renovated to meet minimum standards particularly in the area of lighting.

9. The original Berkley School building should be renovated completely. The other buildings at Berkley need minor renovation and repair.

#### Analysis

At present it appears that after the new consolidated high school, Pinecrest, begins operation in September, 1969, Aberdeen will have two schools offering grades 1-8. Then as now, a large number of the students at the schools will be bussed to the school from outside the planning area. Although the two school plants will not be adequate for their expected use as combined elementary and junior high schools, the changes recommended in the Moore County School Survey would upgrade them to an adequate level.

The two Aberdeen schools will be adequate to serve the planning area during the planning period with the completion of recommended construction and renovation. However, student enrollment at the two schools will depend greatly on the number of children from outside the planning area served by the Aberdeen schools. No new school sites were selected in Aberdeen because it is felt that if an additional elementary school is needed in southern Moore County the Board of Education would likely locate it in the denser populated areas to the north of the Aberdeen Planning Area.

With these considerations in mind, it is felt that the Town of Aberdeen should support Moore County efforts to implement the present county-wide school plan. The town can best do this by upgrading town facilities and services which affect the town's two schools.

Basically, the town has a responsibility to serve the schools with the same services it provides other town residents. A brief review of the most important of these services as they relate to schools is given below:

Police Protection. Schools need the services of the police department when schools open in the morning and when they close in the afternoon. Also, schools often generate large crowds at athletic events and public meetings. At these times police supervision is needed in traffic and crowd control. At present the staff of the Aberdeen Police Department is inadequate to handle these duties and its normal police functions at the same time.

Fire Protection. The same fire fighting facilities are available to the Aberdeen schools as are available to the rest of the town. However, one outstanding deficiency in fire protection was noted at the Berkley School. An extremely long dead-end water main is the only water supply serving the school. Consequently, water pressure is very low.

Water. Both Aberdeen schools are served by the Aberdeen water system. At some times water pressure at Berkley School is insufficient to flush toilets properly.

Sewer. The Aberdeen sewer system serves the Aberdeen School but not the Berkley school.

Streets. Streets in the immediate area of both schools are paved. However, there is no curb and gutter in the vicinity of the Berkley School. Adequate drainage facilities were one of the recommendations of the Moore County School Survey Committee.

Sidewalks. Sidewalks in the area of the Aberdeen School are generally superior to sidewalks in other parts of town. There are no sidewalks in the vicinity of the Berkley School.

Garbage Collection. Garbage collection at both schools is adequate.

General Comments. Although the following items are not strictly the responsibility of the town, it is felt that the town should cooperate with the Board of Education in attempting to improve the situation. The presence of U. S. 1 adjacent to Aberdeen School

creates a dangerous traffic problem. The large traffic volume on the highway makes entering and leaving the school dangerous for parents, teachers, and children riding busses. Parking facilities for parents waiting for children are inadequate. At the Berkley School there is an extreme shortage of land. Undeveloped land is available to add to the site. Future development in the area may make it much more difficult to acquire this land.

#### Recommendations

1. The ability to give school events proper police protection should be considered when decisions are made concerning the size of the police staff. See the section, Police Protection, for specific recommendations.
2. Water and sewer needs in the area of the Berkley School should receive a high priority in construction of new water and sewer facilities.
3. Sidewalks along Keyser Street from N. G. 211 to the town limits should be built immediately.
4. It is recommended that the town acquire up to ten acres of land in the area south and west of Berkley School. The town has no recreation facilities in this area and the town and the school could use the additional land for recreational purposes.
5. Speed limits on U. S. 1 in the Aberdeen School area should be reduced during the hours school opens and closes. An effort should be made to separate bus and automobile traffic at Aberdeen School. This might be done by opening a road into the school from the north and prohibiting all but school bus traffic on it.



## PAGE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Library service in Aberdeen is provided by Page Memorial Library. Page Memorial is operated as a free public library. Most library users come from the town and the immediate fringe areas. The library had a collection of 4,673 volumes and a circulation of 2,741 volumes in 1966-1967.<sup>1</sup> The library is open to the public two hours each Tuesday and Friday afternoon for a total of only four hours each week.

Financial support for the library comes from the Town of Aberdeen, book clubs in the town, and from private donations. In the past the town has allocated \$400 each year to the library. This is used primarily for the librarian's salary. Maintenance of the building is provided by the town.

The library building is owned by the town and is located behind the Aberdeen Municipal Building. It fronts on Poplar Street at the intersection of Poplar and Main Streets.

### Standards<sup>2</sup>

1. A library serving a population of 2,000 to 5,000 people should be affiliated with a larger library system in order to take advantage of the professional services and the larger book collection of the larger library.
2. A library serving 2,000 to 5,000 people should have a book collection of 6,000 volumes or two volumes per person, whichever is larger. Such a library should

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<sup>1</sup> Statistics of North Carolina Public Libraries, compiled by the North Carolina State Library, Raleigh, 1967.

<sup>2</sup> Standards taken from Guidelines to Branch Libraries prepared by the North Carolina State Library, Raleigh, 5-25-66.

have a book collection made up of 50 percent of its books belonging to the local library and 50 percent of its collection coming from a larger library on a rotating basis. The library's own collection should be weighted toward standard works and reference materials. The rotating collection can supplement these materials with books used less often.

3. Smaller libraries serving 2,000 to 5,000 people should be open to the public at least 30 hours per week.
4. All libraries should be located in a center of pedestrian traffic so that children and adults will be within walking distance.
5. Library buildings should have a minimum size of 1,500 square feet and should be comfortably furnished and well lighted.

### Analysis

Aberdeen's present library has served the people well with the resources that were available. Conversations with the North Carolina State Librarian suggest that much can be done to improve library service in Aberdeen and at the same time be within the financial means of the town.

It is the philosophy of the State Library that a local library serving about 3,000 people, as Aberdeen's library does, should provide books and services which will meet the everyday reading needs of children and adult readers in the neighborhood. Persons requiring advanced information and special materials will use a larger regional library.

The State Library staff feels that one of the most important goals for small local libraries is to remain open so that people may use its services. It is felt that Aberdeen should attempt to have the library open 30 hours a week.

It is realized that smaller towns cannot always afford large book collections and a full-time staff too. In order to assist these towns, regional libraries, supported

by local, state, and federal money, operate in most sections of the state. These libraries have large book collections which can be rotated among the smaller libraries of the region. Since Moore County is a member of the Sandhills Regional Library, Aberdeen can use the resources of the regional library without charge. In effect, Aberdeen could use its financial resources to keep the library open for longer periods and use the book collection of the regional library. Presently, the Aberdeen Library borrows only 20 to 25 books from the regional library bookmobile every two weeks. Much greater use could be made of the regional library's book collection.

#### Recommendations

1. Library hours should be increased from four hours per week to thirty hours per week.
2. The library should request the professional staff of the Sandhills Regional Library to review the library's present book collection and make suggestions as to what is needed and what materials should be discarded.
3. With the cooperation of the regional library, Aberdeen should make plans to use the regional library's book collection extensively.
4. The present library building is well located for use by Aberdeen residents. However, the building is quite old and could be made much more attractive and could be furnished more comfortably. The advice of the staff of the regional library should be sought in determining how the building could be best renovated for use as a library. If the cost of such a renovation were too great for one year's budget, then the town could set up a fund and budget the necessary expenditures over several years. Private donations might also be solicited for this purpose.

## RECREATION

Recreation facilities in the Aberdeen Planning Area include not only those facilities owned and maintained by the town but also facilities owned and operated by private groups and other government units such as school systems. This section will attempt to review all facilities. The recommendations will point out needs to be served by both the town and private groups with particular emphasis on action required by the town.

### Town Park

The Town of Aberdeen owns and maintains one park located in the Colonial Heights section. The park is about five acres in size. Its major facilities include playground equipment for children approximately four to twelve years of age and a ball diamond suitable for teenage baseball or adult softball. However, its location on the southwestern edge of Aberdeen does not make it ideal for all the town's children.

A survey of the park revealed the playground equipment included four sets of slides, three seesaws, four swing sets, a merry-go-round, and a set of parallel bars. Together with the well maintained grounds and an ample number of shade trees, this area provides Aberdeen with an attractive and suitable playground facility. Some deficiencies were noted in the playground. There are no park benches in the area for adults to use while supervising children. Also much of the playground equipment was in need of minor repair. Many chains and seats were missing from the swing sets and some of the handrails on the slides were missing or damaged.

In addition to the playground area, there is a basketball court and a ball diamond. The ball diamond was in good condition for use in that the grass was cut and the area was free of any trash or other objects. However, the fences, bleachers, wire backstop,

and other accessories were in poor condition. Also, the water fountain in the area did not work. The basketball court was paved, clean, and in generally good condition except for the lack of nets on the goals and the need for paint to protect the metal goals.

#### Aberdeen Playground Association

The Aberdeen Playground Association is a non-profit private organization which leases Page's Lake and surrounding property from its private owners and operates the area as a recreation facility. The Playground Association is sponsored by private donations and its facilities are free to users. During the summer months the lake and the surrounding picnic areas are well used by Aberdeen residents and people throughout the Sandhills region.

The facilities at the lake include a swimming area, picnic grounds, and a playground for younger children. The swimming area is operated throughout the summer months. A lifeguard is on duty and dressing rooms and refreshment stands are available. The beach area is well shaded and is equipped with park benches. The picnic areas are located in shady areas for the most part and approximately twenty-five picnic benches are available. The playground is located in a wooded area between the lake and U. S. 1 along Lakeshore Drive. Its facilities include swings, slides, and seesaws.

The Playground Association is presently expanding the park below the dam. A wooded area of approximately an acre below the dam along Aberdeen Creek is being cleared of underbrush. Additional picnic and playground facilities are planned for the area. Two tennis courts are also planned for the park. They are to be located opposite the swimming area.

Although Page's Lake and its surrounding park are privately operated, the area provides Aberdeen and the surrounding area with a valuable recreational facility. The lake area would be much more valuable to the community as a whole if its facilities were open

to all the public. Its attendance and use indicates there is a definite need for recreation facilities in the area. However, in reviewing the facilities offered here it has been noticed that almost all are directed toward warm weather use such as swimming and picnicking. Plans calling for new tennis courts seem to be a move toward facilities useful for greater parts of the year. More facilities that could be used at least in the spring and fall if not the winter would add much to the value of the lake area. Basketball courts, dock facilities for fishermen, horseshoe pits, and nature trails are examples of facilities that might appeal to groups not using the area after the swimming and picnicking season are over.

#### School Recreation Facilities

The Moore County Board of Education has two schools in Aberdeen. When school is in session there are physical education programs at both schools for students. Outdoor facilities and some indoor facilities are open to the public after school hours and during the summer months. A brief description of the recreation facilities at each school is given below.

Berkley School. Recreation facilities at the Berkley School include a gymnasium and some limited playground facilities. Space is limited for outdoor recreation at the site. The lack of space at the site has forced the school to use a privately owned vacant lot several blocks from the school for its high school baseball field. Although there will not be a high school at Berkley after Pinecrest High School is opened in September of 1969, there will be a need for additional recreation area for the school. Lack of a town recreation area or program in the Berkley neighborhood prompted citizens in the area to attempt a private recreation program during the summer months. School facilities and playgrounds were used but neither adequate personnel or facilities were available to offer an adequate program.



Aberdeen School. Recreation facilities at Aberdeen School include high school baseball and football fields, a gymnasium, and playgrounds for younger children. A large indoor multi-purpose recreation room is located under the Aberdeen School Auditorium.

All outdoor recreation facilities are available to the public when the school is not using them. In the past private groups have used the school's lighted athletic fields for summer softball leagues. Indoor facilities such as the gymnasium and the multi-purpose room are used by the public for basketball and dancing classes. There usually is not any supervisory personnel at the gymnasium when it is open on weekends and during holidays when it is open. Private individuals do supervise the dance classes which are offered two or three times a week at the school. Although most school facilities are open to the public when they are not being used by the school, there are no paid supervisors at these school facilities after school hours for the most part.

#### Regional Facilities

Aberdeen is located in an area world famous for its golf and horseback riding facilities and these resort facilities are available to those residents who wish to use them. The mild climate of the Sandhills area also encourages other outdoor recreation activities such as hunting and fishing. The state owned Sandhills Came Management Area in nearby Richmond County allows fishing and controlled hunting of deer, rabbit, squirrel, quail, and doves. Commercial recreation such as bowling and theaters are available in the planning area and in nearby Southern Pines.



## Analysis

There are at present nearly enough parks and recreation areas to serve the Aberdeen Planning Area although the town does not own but one of the areas. The town owned park in the Colonial Heights area is adequate to serve that neighborhood although an increased level of maintenance is needed.

The privately owned and operated facilities at Aberdeen Lake offer a potentially excellent opportunity for the Aberdeen community. The land fronting on the lake should be preserved as a green space corridor connecting downtown Aberdeen with the open countryside. Protected as an open area, this lakeshore land would offer excellent sites for a community center, a nature trail, or many other recreation uses. Aberdeen is indeed fortunate to have such an opportunity for a recreation area so centrally located. It should be a major community goal to see that this land is developed only for community recreation uses.

The Aberdeen School recreation facilities should be adequate as a neighborhood recreation area and some of the facilities such as the gymnasium and the auditorium are suitable for community recreation uses. The area served by this facility is the fastest growing area in the Aberdeen Planning Area and as growth continues to the north an additional neighborhood park will be needed in the northern Ridgewood area.

Recreation facilities are most lacking in the Berkley section of Aberdeen. The only publicly owned land available in this section is the Berkley School playground and gymnasium facilities. These facilities are even now inadequate in size for school purposes. Land is available adjacent to the school which could serve both as a town recreation area and a school playground. Both the town and the school would be benefitted by a well equipped playground in this area.

### Recreation Program

At present, the Town of Aberdeen spends no money for recreation purposes and all recreation programs in town are privately financed.

### Recommendations

1. It is felt that the most important recreation need in Aberdeen at present is for a recreation director who can operate a recreation program and fully utilize the town's available facilities. At first such a program might be full-time in the summer months and part-time for the remainder of the year. Both town and school facilities should be used for the program. Activities might include athletic leagues for adults and children throughout the year with emphasis on summer leagues. Arts and crafts facilities could be offered on weekends throughout the year.

#### Alternative Recommendation

Although a part-time recreation program, or even a full-time program, is not beyond the means of a town of Aberdeen's size, it might be more practical to cooperate with Southern Pines or Moore County in hiring a full-time recreation director. This would allow both towns to participate in larger, better organized league sports such as baseball, softball, football, and basketball. Joint use of playgrounds and athletic fields for outdoor sports would also have advantages. Both towns might realize benefits from a joint recreation program in the area of arts and crafts centers. The combined budgets of the two towns could make a more diversified and better equipped program available to citizens of both communities.

2. The town's recreation facilities at the Colonial Heights Park should be repaired and utilized in the recreation program.
3. The town should acquire a park-playground for the Berkley neighborhood. Since the Berkley School site is inadequate in size, the town should acquire land adjacent to the school and use it jointly with the school.
4. The Ridgewood-Forest Hills area north of Aberdeen is the fastest growing part of the planning area and an additional playground will be needed in this area by the end of the planning period. A site of four or five acres located in the Ridgewood area east of U. S. 1 would be most desirable. Since the Forest Hills area west of U. S. 1 can use the Aberdeen School playground without crossing a major traffic artery, it is felt that a new playground facility should be on the opposite side of the highway from the school.
5. The town should see that the Aberdeen Lake area is used for recreation purposes. If necessary to insure this land is used for recreation purposes, the town should acquire the property.

## MEDICAL FACILITIES

There are presently four doctors in Aberdeen. The North Carolina Medical Care Association feels that a town of Aberdeen's size is indeed fortunate to have this many professional medical personnel available. Together with the excellent staff at the nearby hospitals of Moore Memorial and Saint Joseph of the Pines, this level of medical services is adequate. Ambulance service is available in nearby Southern Pines and there is a rescue squad for emergencies in Aberdeen. The nearest county health services offices are in Carthage.

### Standards

1. It normally takes a population of four to five thousand people to support resident professional medical personnel. Two thousand people could support one doctor, but doctors prefer to locate in pairs in order to arrange for off duty times.
2. A community should be within 15-20 minutes traveling time to adequate hospital facilities.
3. There should be some type of ambulance service available to transport emergency patients to hospital facilities.

### Recommendation

Medical facilities adequate for a town of Aberdeen's size are available in or very close to the planning area. For this reason it is felt that the town and its residents should channel their support to these facilities rather than attempting to duplicate them.

## ELECTRICITY AND STREET LIGHTING

### Electricity

Carolina Power and Light Company serves all of southern Moore County, including the entire Aberdeen Planning Area, from its service and maintenance offices in Southern Pines. The Carolina Bank in Aberdeen serves as a collection office for the convenience of the power company's customers in the Aberdeen area.

It is the policy of Carolina Power and Light Company to locate power lines along street rights-of-way in Aberdeen. In the Aberdeen business district, some power lines have been located at the rear of lots but many lines are still evident on Main Street and other business streets. All the power lines in Aberdeen are owned and maintained by the power company.

Underground wiring is provided by Carolina Power and Light Company where the individual requesting it is willing to pay part of the additional cost. The additional cost of underground wiring is shared by the developer and the company according to a schedule approved by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

### Street Lights

Carolina Power and Light Company also provides street lights in the Town of Aberdeen. The company owns, operates and maintains the street light system in Aberdeen. Lights are installed at the request of the town and the town is billed for the service on a cost per fixture basis. The cost per fixture is determined by the type and size of fixture used. Most residential areas in Aberdeen are now lighted with 2,500 lumen incandescent lights costing \$18.96 per year. Areas along U. S. 1 and the Aberdeen business district are lighted by 6,000 lumen incandescent lights costing \$34.80 per year.

The present town policy is to locate street lights at every street intersection and to locate additional lights in the middle of unusually long blocks. The power company feels that the present street lighting system in Aberdeen is comparable to other similar size towns throughout North Carolina. It should be pointed out that there is a superior street lighting system available. The mercury vapor lighting system is available from Carolina Power and Light Company upon request. This system produces approximately three times the light produced by the conventional incandescent lighting used by Aberdeen. The cost of mercury vapor lighting would be about double the cost of present lighting. There is no installation cost for a changeover to mercury vapor lighting and such a changeover would not have to include the entire town.

#### Analysis and Recommendations

It is felt that Aberdeen should make efforts to do two things concerning power lines in the planning area. The town should encourage both private individuals and the power company to locate unsightly power lines at the rear of business property in the downtown area. This would seem to be particularly feasible in areas along Main Street which have large undeveloped lots behind businesses. In residential areas, Aberdeen should require developers to use underground wiring for new subdivisions.

Converting the present incandescent street lighting system to a mercury vapor system would provide much better conditions for drivers and pedestrians at night. Light produced by a mercury vapor lighting system is more economical than conventional lighting. However, due to the increased amount of light produced, the power used by a complete mercury vapor lighting system would be greater than that used by the present system.

Standards relating to street lights are usually discussed in terms of the length of intervals between fixtures throughout town. In this respect Aberdeen is adequately served. However, the illumination produced by the fixtures must be geared to the needs

and preferences of the town and the neighborhood. A high crime rate in a neighborhood or a dangerous intersection may call for greater illumination than is needed in a quiet residential area. Also, downtown business districts require greater illumination because of night shopping or window-shopping and the need to protect these high value areas from fire or theft.

The town should at least consider changing its entire street lighting system to mercury vapor lighting. If this does not appear to be economically feasible, individual areas could be changed to the higher intensity lighting. In order to compare the difference between mercury vapor lighting and conventional lighting, Aberdeen residents might notice the mercury vapor lighting system now in operation in Raeford, North Carolina. Recommendations on a regular basis from the police and fire departments might point out areas where additional illumination would reduce the danger of accidents, theft, and fire. As new areas are added to the system, these departments should be heard concerning the type and location of proposed street lights.



## GAS

North Carolina Natural Gas Corporation provides gas on a metered basis to customers in the Aberdeen Planning Area. The company began operation in the area in 1959 and has expanded its service lines yearly since then. The company's service lines are shown on the Gas Service Areas Map at the end of this section. The number of customers served by the company in the Aberdeen area is unknown as the company's office in Southern Pines keeps records on its entire service area which includes Southern Pines as well as Aberdeen.

North Carolina Natural Gas Corporation provides gas to both residential and non-residential users in the Aberdeen area. Its rates and policies are governed by the rules and regulations of the North Carolina Utilities Commission. The company's expansion policy is to extend gas lines to any area according to the economic feasibility of the project. This is determined by the number of users on the proposed line, the amount of gas they will use, and the possibility of increased use of the line. Lines are normally located in street rights-of-way in Aberdeen.

The company has its business and service office at 275 Northeast Broad Street in Southern Pines. Major maintenance offices are located in Rockingham, North Carolina. Metering and booster stations are located on Bethesda Road between Southern Pines and Aberdeen.

### Recommendation

The town should encourage the gas company to provide service lines to all parts of town. Wherever possible, the company should be encouraged to install service lines to new developments prior to the construction of streets, curbs, and sidewalks. This

should be done even though existing residences, businesses, and industries in new developments will not make the project economically feasible at first. Installation of gas lines prior to street paving could save the town considerable money in repaving and patching pavement cuts.



GAS DISTRIBUTION  
SYSTEM



## AIRPORT

The nearby Pinehurst-Southern Pines Airport is the closest full-time air facility in the Aberdeen area. It began as a private airfield in the 1920's. Moore County assumed responsibility and ownership of the facility in the 1930's and began improvements under a W.P.A. project. Today the entire facility including property, buildings, and runways are owned by the county.

In recent years air traffic, particularly general aviation traffic, has increased at the airport. At present there are twenty-three one and two engine aircraft based at the airport. The bulk of the passenger air traffic is related to Pinehurst or Southern Pines. Traffic connected with commerce or industry is more related to Aberdeen. At present there is enough airline business at the airport to support scheduled airline stops approximately six months of the year.

### Airport Services

Private individuals at the airport provide pilot training, airplane rentals, and aircraft sales in addition to normal airport services. Aircraft maintenance shops, aircraft parking, fueling, and air taxi service are also offered at the facility. Passenger airline service is provided by Piedmont Airlines during the tourist season from about the first of October to the last of April.

### Airport Facilities

The airport has fueling facilities for all types of commercial aircraft and can serve them from stationary pumps or mobile units. The maintenance shops have equipment to perform major overhauls on either aircraft or engines. Paved parking areas will

accommodate about twenty of the average size planes using the airport. Including grass parking areas, about fifty planes can be parked.

The airport site includes approximately eighty-five acres of land plus approach easements to the runways. There are two runways; one is 4,500 feet long and paved; the other is a 3,400 foot grass runway. The field is lighted and the lighting is automatically turned off and on by photoelectric cell switches. There is an instrument approach system. This together with the lighted field allows the airport to be used when visibility is down to one mile with a ceiling of 500 feet.

Terminal facilities are provided for airline passengers at the airport. These include a waiting room, ticket sales office, baggage check counter, and restrooms. Transportation to and from the airport is provided by taxis and rental automobiles. Parking is available for private automobiles at the terminal. Overnight accommodations for people using the airport can be found in the nearby towns.

### Zoning

The airport property has been zoned by Moore County. This was done in conjunction with zoning of the area near Sandhills Community College. Moore County's ordinance is designed primarily to prevent commercial nuisance development in the area of the college and airport.

### Analysis and Recommendations

In order to keep the airport operational for commercial airlines, certain improvements need to be made. The airline which serves the airport plans to change over to jet aircraft in the near future. In order to handle these aircraft an additional 1,100 feet of paved runway will be needed. Because of additional general aviation traffic, a new taxiway is needed. Also, present aircraft parking space is not adequate. Land is

available for these projects. However, future expansion will require additional land.

Although Aberdeen does not have a large enough population or business demand to support an airport alone, there is considerable demand for airport facilities in the Aberdeen Planning Area. The Pinehurst-Southern Pines Airport offers the best hope for Aberdeen and the entire Sandhills area having adequate air transportation facilities. The facility can be valuable to the entire area for not only the service it provides area residents but because of its service to tourists and business. Aberdeen in particular might find the facility a valuable asset in attracting new industry. Because of these reasons it is recommended that the Town of Aberdeen and the residents of the Aberdeen Planning Area support any Moore County efforts to improve service and facilities at the airport.

## CEMETERIES

Cemeteries in the Aberdeen Planning Area are privately owned and maintained. The largest cemetery in the planning area is Bethesda Cemetery just east of Aberdeen's municipal limits on highway N. C. 5. This facility serves most of the residents of the planning area. It is well maintained and very attractive. The cemetery owns enough suitable land adjacent to the present developed areas to serve the community throughout the planning period. Several small church or family cemeteries are also present in the planning area. These vary considerably in the amount of maintenance received. For the most part they are used by non-whites.

It is recommended that Aberdeen discourage the expansion of cemeteries for small groups or groups without the financial means to maintain the facilities. Small unattractive cemeteries can be a neighborhood blighting factor. Only groups with the necessary resources should be allowed to start new cemeteries in the community. Zoning regulations should include restrictions on the location of future cemeteries and subdivision regulations could require proposed cemeteries to be large enough to prevent the need for many small cemeteries scattered throughout the planning area.





# **PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM**



## INTRODUCTION

### What is a public improvements program?

A public improvements program is a plan which lists public improvements needed by a town and which recommends priorities for these improvements. The public improvements program is also a list of community goals which need to be attained in order to improve community facilities and services to adequate levels. Through long-range scheduling of municipal improvements, the town can coordinate its projects with the overall community needs and development, as well as the town's financial capabilities.

### What projects are considered in the public improvements program?

Municipal projects requiring expenditures, other than items occurring annually, are included in the public improvements program. A large facility such as a sewage treatment plant would be included because it would be a major expenditure. A small project such as repainting street signs would be included because it is not a year to year expense item. However, public salaries would not be included because these expenses occur annually.

### What are the advantages of public improvement programming?

1. Public improvements programming encourages town officials and the public to view community needs in a comprehensive manner. The necessity of setting priorities requires that public officials make public policy decisions regarding alternative projects and their relative need.
2. Public improvements programming alerts town officials to the need for specific improvements and helps to avoid crises due to failure to expand, repair, or

add needed facilities.

3. Advance knowledge of community needs allows adequate time for policy decisions to be made and for project planning to be completed.
4. Public improvements programming helps to focus public officials' attention on the need for improved service levels rather than allowing resources to continue to be allocated as they have been in the past.
5. Listing and making improvement priorities known allows citizens to become aware of community needs. Knowledge of what tax money is being spent for makes the task of raising money for improvements easier.
6. Programming with agreed upon priorities makes expensive crash projects to satisfy individual groups less likely.
7. Public improvements programming is a means of implementing the community's general development plan.
8. Programming public improvements helps achieve an even level of spending over the years by preventing crash programs.

When will these improvements be completed?

Even a brief consideration of community needs in Aberdeen reveals that all improvements cannot be made immediately. The cost of such an undertaking would be prohibitive if it had to be completed in one or two years. The public improvements program lists the necessary projects according to priorities and spreads them over a twenty-year planning period.

A plan for a twenty-year period must by necessity be more specific at the beginning and more general toward the end. Therefore, this plan for Aberdeen has been divided into relatively short two-year periods for the first ten years and then breaks the last ten-year period into two five-year periods.

## Fiscal Outlook

Like most things, public improvements cost money. Therefore, it is appropriate to briefly review Aberdeen's financial picture before considering specific improvements.

### CURRENT REVENUES

Current Tax Valuation of Town Property (property is assessed at 60% of real value)	\$4,370,703.00
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Current Tax Rate: \$1.35 per \$100.00 valuation

#### Current Town Revenues:

Taxes (1966-67)	\$58,287.52
Water and Sewer Rents	53,741.76
Utilities Franchise Tax	1,721.48
Intangible Tax	9,757.97
Powell Bill	8,659.46
Other Sources	<u>8,503.67</u>
Total	\$140,671.86

### Bonded Indebtedness

#### Outstanding bonds as of 1967

Water Bonds	\$78,291.20
Sewer Bonds	49,708.80
Municipal Building Bonds	<u>14,000.00</u>
Total outstanding bonds	\$142,000.00
Total outstanding bonds, excluding water bonds	63,708.80
Sewer bonds authorized, but unissued	<u>310,000.00</u>
Total bonds outstanding, or to be issued	\$373,708.80



The total assessed tax valuation of property in Aberdeen in 1967 was \$4,370,703.00. North Carolina Law allows a municipality to incur debt up to 8 percent of its total assessed tax valuation, excluding water revenue bonds. Eight percent of Aberdeen's total assessed tax valuation amounts to \$349,656.00 at present. After the present sewer bonds are sold, bonded indebtedness, excluding water revenue bonds, will exceed this figure by \$24,052.80 ( $\$373,708.80 - \$349,656.00 = \$24,052.80$ ). Because the town's bonded indebtedness will exceed the 8 percent ratio of debt to assessed valuation, Aberdeen is not likely to be able to incur additional debt in the immediate future, except possibly for bonds issued to improve water facilities. In regard to future public improvements, this means most projects for the next few years cannot be financed by bonds. Improvements will have to be financed out of current revenues or by benefit assessments.

#### Advance Acquisition of Land

In the course of making the public improvements recommended in this report, there will be several instances where a site for the suggested facility will be needed. Often the cost of land represents a major part of the total cost of a new facility. For many years real estate prices have continued to rise steadily. This economic fact, together with advance planning, offers municipalities such as Aberdeen the opportunity to make considerable savings on proposed public improvements. By acquiring needed land at today's prices, the total cost of a project may be reduced substantially. Advance acquisition of land has a second advantage which may be even more important than financial savings. If land is not bought in advance, choice sites may be developed for other purposes and for all practical purposes lost as far as the public is concerned. For these reasons it is recommended that Aberdeen consider its future land needs carefully and initiate an immediate program of acquisition of needed land.



The list below indicates land needed by Aberdeen during the planning period. The priority ranking indicates the order in which these sites should be acquired.

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1	Acquire a site for a sanitary landfill and begin disposing of refuse by the sanitary landfill method.	Aberdeen's present town dump is unsanitary and presents a health and sanitation problem. A sanitary landfill would eliminate objectionable smoke, odors, insects, rodents, and other health hazards from the refuse disposal operation.
2	Acquire park land in the vicinity of Berkley School for joint use of the school and the town. Grading and landscaping the new area will be necessary. Playground equipment will have to be acquired and installed.	The town does not have a playground in the Berkley neighborhood, and Berkley School has a site of insufficient size. One site for both would be most desirable.
3	Begin acquisition of rights-of-way to implement the Thoroughfare Plan.	Since a Thoroughfare Plan has not yet been adopted, specific projects cannot be listed by years. However, it is felt that priority should be given to projects in the plan that would result in roads connecting eastern and western Aberdeen with the fringe area north of town without the necessity of going through the business district.
4.	Acquire a site for a future fire station adjacent to the downtown area. A large lot at the corner of Maple and Poplar Streets would be a desirable location.	The present fire station and its site are inadequate in size. A larger site is needed to provide adequate space for outdoor maintenance and training as well as better access to the street from the fire station. Acquisition of the site should be completed well in advance of construction in order to save money on steadily

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Justification</u>
		advancing real estate prices and to insure the availability of a suitable site when it is needed.
5	Acquire a 4-5 acre playground to serve the Ridgewood area.	This area is expected to develop into an important residential area. It does not presently have a playground suitable for neighborhood children.

# PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1968-70	1	Adopt and publish town development policies concerning utility and street extensions. These policies should state how such extensions are to be financed.	Decisions to extend or not extend water and sewer lines and streets should be based on established policies which are available to the public. Aberdeen does not now have published policies available to the public.
	2	Review, update, and codify all town ordinances.	The last comprehensive codification of Aberdeen ordinances was made in the 1930's. Ordinances no longer meaningful are still in effect. Ordinances passed since the last codification are available only in municipal files.
	3	Remodel the present courtroom to provide office space for the police department, town officials, and the drivers license examiner.	The present courtroom will not be needed after the Aberdeen Recorder's Court is replaced by the District Courts in Southern Pines and Carthage in December, 1968. The present police office does not have a sufficient storage area, a private interrogation room, or a private office for the police chief. Neither the administrative or elected town officials have a conference area suitable for the conduct of town business. Moving the drivers license examiner will allow his present office to be used as a commissioner's meeting room.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1968-70 (Cont.)	4	Furnish the present drivers license examiners office as a town commissioner's meeting room.	The town commissioners presently meet in the town clerk's office where space is limited. An auditorium-type arrangement with the commissioners seated at a bench facing the area reserved for the public would be desirable.
	5	Lengthen the number of hours the library is open to 15 hours per week.	Page Memorial Library is open only four hours per week now.
	6	Hire sufficient personnel to operate the new waste treatment plant.	Plans for the new waste treatment plant require an additional laborer to operate and maintain the facility.
	7	Hire sufficient men to act as jail attendents.	North Carolina law requires that there be an attendant on duty at all times that persons are confined in jails. The Aberdeen Police Force is not presently large enough to assign a man to full-time duty at the police station and jail. Two or three men would be needed to have an attendant in the building at all times. These men could also act as police radio dispatchers and answer police phones.
	8	Install radio equipment in the police station.	With radio dispatchers (jail attendents) on duty, radio equipment at the police station will improve the effectiveness of the force.
	9	Begin a continuing, comprehensive fire training program.	The fire department should have a continuing permanent program of instruction and review in the methods and techniques of fire fighting. Such a program would improve the department's efficiency and consequently

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1968-70 (Cont.)			would aid in lowering fire insurance rates in town.
	10	Purchase additional protective clothing and equipment for firemen.	All possible precautions should be taken to protect firemen from the hazards of fire fighting.
	11	Purchase salvage equipment such as brooms, mops, buckets, and squeegees.	Salvage equipment is needed to clean up after fires.
	12	Inspect and clean out the natural water courses draining Aberdeen.	All natural drainage channels should be open in order to expedite the runoff of storm water. Since this should be done on an annual basis, it will not be repeated in the improvements program.
	13	Repair playground facilities at Colonial Heights Park.	Much of the playground equipment here is in a bad state of repair. Swing sets are missing chains. Slides are missing hand-rails. The fences around the ball field are broken. Most equipment is in structurally sound condition, but needs repair to make it completely safe.
	14	Resurface 5% of all town maintained streets each year.	The town should resurface all streets at least once during the twenty-year planning period. Some heavily used streets may require more frequent resurfacing. Since this is a yearly expense, it will not be repeated in the improvements program.
	15	Reletter street signs.	The present Aberdeen street signs have become faded due to weather exposure. They

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1968-70 (Cont.)			need to be repainted so they will be clearly readable. This should be done in the future as needed, probably every three or four years.
	16	Replace 1955 model pickup truck in 1968.	It is felt the town will get most economical service from trucks by operating them for only four or five years. Higher maintenance costs after this point would probably result in operating costs higher than trading for new trucks. The N. C. State Highway Commission operates similar type trucks for approximately this length of time.
	17	Replace the 1962 open body truck in 1969.	This truck was five years old in 1967.
	18	Replace the 1967 model police car in 1969.	The N. C. Highway Patrol has found that maintenance on patrol cars after one year is prohibitive and their cars are traded yearly. Because of varying purchasing arrangements it is felt that Aberdeen should trade every two years.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1970-72	1	Have an engineering study made to determine the yield and adequacy of Aberdeen's water sources.	Aberdeen drilled two wells in 1967 to supplement the existing well and lake operating at that time. The town now needs to determine if these wells are going to be adequate to serve the town's long term needs. If not, plans should be made to develop an alternate water source for the future. Periodic studies should be made throughout the planning period to insure that adequate water supplies will be available.
	2	Purchase a crawler-type tractor for work at the landfill.	A tractor will be necessary to bury refuse when the sanitary landfill operation is begun.
	3	Hire a tractor operator for work at the landfill.	An experienced heavy equipment operator will be needed to operate the sanitary landfill. He could probably also be used to operate other town equipment part time.
	4	Hire an additional policeman.	The police force presently has three men on the staff. This size staff is not large enough to provide the town with 24-hour protection and give policemen adequate time off from duty. In the future, Aberdeen should hire an additional policeman each time the town population increases by 500. Since most future growth is expected to come by annexation, future additions to the force are not listed in specific time periods.
	5	Areas where roadside ditches are used for storm drainage should be cleaned out, channeled, and planted with grass.	Ditches need to be open and free of debris to serve as storm drains. Grassed ditches prevent erosion. If the sides are properly designed, adjoining property owners can cut the grass in ditches with lawnmowers.



<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1970-72 (Cont.)	6	Construct fire hose drying facilities.	The fire department presently has no hose drying facilities and hose is stored while wet thus reducing its useful life.
	7	Replace the 1969 model police car in 1971.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.
	8	Replace the 1967 model pickup truck in 1972.	This truck will be five years old in 1972.
	9	Construct sidewalks along Keyser Street from the Berkley area to South Main Street.	There should be sidewalks in Aberdeen connecting the principal parts of town and additional sidewalks in areas near schools.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1972-74	1	Construct additional water mains and fire hydrants along U. S. 1 south of South Street and in the area south of South Street including the Berkley area.	Water mains and fire hydrants in these sections are not adequate in size or quantity for fire protection or domestic use. Parts of these areas have no water lines.
	2	Construct a new elevated water tank.	Aberdeen's present elevated water storage capacity is inadequate to supply the town with water during an emergency, and the location of the present tank does not provide sufficient water pressure to some parts of the water system.
	3	Hire sufficient full-time firemen to have one man on duty at all times.	A full-time fireman on duty would aid in lowering fire insurance rates and improve the effectiveness of the fire department.
	4	Purchase foam generating equipment and materials.	The 1960 N. C. Fire Insurance Rating Bureau inspection of Aberdeen fire defenses shows the department was deficient in these fire fighting materials.
	5	Purchase radio equipment for the fire station.	Radio equipment at the fire station would allow firemen at a fire to communicate quickly with firemen at the station if additional equipment or men were needed.
	6	Hire a part-time recreation director.	A recreation director is needed to organize and direct a well rounded recreation program.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1972-74 (Cont.)	7	Construct additional maintenance and garage buildings.	Aberdeen presently has no garage facilities suitable for storing the refuse packer truck. The town work crew needs an indoor area for maintenance work such as washing equipment, changing oil in vehicles, and minor repair work on vehicles and equipment.
	8	A program of replacing the temporary asphalt curbing found in some sections of Aberdeen should be started.	Permanent curbing is more attractive, more serviceable, and requires less maintenance than the temporary curbs used in some Aberdeen residential areas.
	9	Construct sidewalks from the business district to the eastern town limits along South Street, and along Elm Street from U. S. 1 to Lakeshore Drive, and along Lakeshore Drive to U. S. 1.	There should be sidewalks in Aberdeen connecting the principal parts of town and additional sidewalks in areas near schools.
	10	Replace the 1968 model refuse packer truck.	This vehicle is in use almost daily. Past experience has shown that these vehicles have a useful life of 4-5 years.
	11	Replace the 1968 model pickup truck in 1973.	This truck will be five years old in 1973.
	12	Replace the 1971 model police car in 1973.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1974-76	1	Pave drives at the town garage and landscape the entrance area.	The town maintenance area presently has dirt drives and parking areas. The entrance to the area is adjacent to a junk yard. Landscaping and fencing are needed to separate the town facilities from the adjoining land use.
	2	Construct new sewer lines to serve areas in town presently not served by existing lines.	All major developed areas in town should be served by municipal sewer. Major areas not served include the Berkley neighborhood and areas along the eastern town limits.
	3	Install concrete, barrier-type curb and gutter on East South Street and East Main Street.	Storm drainage is needed in these areas. Since both streets carry considerable traffic, barrier-type curbs are needed.
	4	Lengthen the number of hours the library is open to 30 hours per week.	Library hours should be increased from the 15 hours per week recommended for 1968-70 to 30 hours in 1975.
	5	Construct sidewalks along South Street from U. S. 1 to South Pinehurst, and on South Pinehurst Street to the town limits, and extend Sycamore Street sidewalk to Montford Street.	There should be sidewalks in Aberdeen connecting the principal parts of town and additional sidewalks in areas near schools.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1974-76 (Cont.)	6	Replace 1969 model open body truck in 1974.	This truck will be five years old in 1974.
	7	Purchase a new fire truck to replace the 1955 model.	The Fire Insurance Rating Bureau will recognize a fire truck only as a reserve vehicle after it is twenty years old.
	8	Replace the 1973 model police car in 1975.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.
	9	Purchase a tractor with a back hoe and front-end loader.	The maintenance crew working on streets, water lines, sewer lines, and other town maintenance work could operate more efficiently with an all purpose piece of equipment such as this.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1976-78	1	Install curb, gutter, and storm drainage in the vicinity of Berkley School, particularly on Keyser Street.	There are no storm drainage facilities in the area of this school. Storm water presently flows onto the school property from Keyser Street.
	2	Construct these sidewalks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maple Street, from Lakeshore Drive to Blue Street.</li> <li>2. Blue Street, from East Maple Street to South Main Street.</li> <li>3. Saunders Avenue, from town limits to Pinehurst Street.</li> <li>4. Extend East Main Street sidewalks to town limits.</li> <li>5. Park Drive, from town limits to Saunders Avenue.</li> </ol>	There should be sidewalks in Aberdeen connecting the principal parts of town and additional sidewalks near schools.
	3	Replace the 1975 model police car in 1977.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.
	4	Replace the 1972 model pickup truck in 1977.	This truck will be five years old in 1977.
	5	Replace the 1973 model pickup truck in 1978.	This truck will be five years old in 1978.

<u>Fiscal</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1976-78 (Cont.)	6	Replace the 1973 model refuse packer truck in 1978.	Past experience has shown that these vehicles have a useful life of 4-5 years.



<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1978-83	1	Convert town street lights to mercury vapor system.	Aberdeen street lights are now the conventional incandescent lights. Replacement by mercury vapor lighting will nearly triple the intensity of light produced.
	2	Purchase a street sweeper.	Acquisition of a street sweeper will allow Aberdeen streets to be swept on a more regular basis.
	3	Renovate the library building.	The library building will be approximately 40 years old in 1978-83.
	4	Build water distribution lines and municipal sewer into the developed fringe areas as they are annexed.	These areas are expected to be the fastest growing sections of the planning area: Ridgewood and Forrest Hills. They are expected to need municipal water and sewer by this time.
	5	Replace 1974 model open body truck in 1979.	This truck will be five years old in 1979.
	6	Replace the 1977 model police car in 1979.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.
	7	Replace the 1979 model police car in 1981.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.
	8	Replace the 1977 model pickup truck in 1982.	This truck will be five years old in 1982.
	9	Replace the 1981 model police car in 1983.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1978-83 (Cont.)	10	Replace the 1978 model refuse packer truck in 1983.	Past experience has shown that these vehi- cles have a useful life of 4-5 years.
	11	Replace the 1978 model pickup truck in 1983.	This truck will be five years old in 1983.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1983-88	1	Relocate central business district power lines underground.	As pointed out in the Aberdeen Population and Economy Study, retail trade is very important to the Aberdeen economy. The town should make every effort to see that the business district is as convenient and attractive as possible.
	2	Continue to extend water and sewer lines into the developing fringe areas north and south of town as the areas are annexed.	These areas are expected to be among the fastest growing sections of the planning area during the planning period. See the Aberdeen Population and Economy Study and the Aberdeen Annexation Study.
	3	Extend sidewalks into developing areas presently (1968) outside the municipal limits.	There should be sidewalks in Aberdeen connecting the principal parts of town and additional sidewalks in areas near schools.
	4	Build a new fire station to replace the present one.	The present fire station is not adequate in size. The present station does not have any outdoor area for maintenance or training.
	5	Replace the 1979 model open body truck in 1984.	This truck will be five years old in 1984.
	6	Replace the 1983 model police car in 1985.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.
	7	Replace the 1965 fire truck in 1985.	The Fire Insurance Rating Bureau will recognize a fire truck only as a reserve vehicle after it is twenty years old.
	8	Replace the 1982 model pickup truck in 1987.	This truck will be five years old in 1987.

<u>Fiscal Years</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Improvement Item</u>	<u>Justification</u>
1983-88 (Cont.)	9	Replace the 1985 model police car in 1987.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.
	10	Replace the 1983 model refuse packer truck in 1988.	Past experience has shown that these vehicles have a useful life of 4-5 years.
	11	Replace the 1987 model police car in 1988.	Police cars should be replaced every two years.
	12	Replace the 1983 model pickup truck in 1988.	This truck will be five years old in 1988.



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facilities and services provided by the town and, to a lesser degree, by the county, state, and private organizations are included in this report. Individual sections of the report deal with specific facilities such as municipal water and sewer, fire and police protection, streets, and medical facilities. The methodology of the report is conventional in nature. Surveys of existing facilities are compared with accepted standards; existing facilities and services are analyzed and evaluated in terms of the standards and projected needs; and recommendations are made for improving the community's services and facilities. The second section of the report is the Public Improvements Program. In this section community needs gathered from the Community Facilities Plan and from other sources are programmed for the 20-year planning period. These needs are programmed for action in five two-year periods and two five-year periods. Land needs are considered separately in a section at the beginning of the report along with an examination of Aberdeen's fiscal outlook.

